THE

SCOTS MAGAZINE,

AND

Edinburgh Literary Miscellany,

FOR JUNE 1805:

With a view of the Headland *of* CULSWICK, *and the Ancient* PICTISH FORT.

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State

State of the BAROMETER, in inches and decimals, and of Farenheit's THERMOMETER, in the open air, taken in the morning before sun-rise, and at noon; and the quantity of rain-water fallen, in inches and decimals, from May 26. to June 25. 1805, in the vicinity of Edinburgh.

1805.	Barom.	Thermom. M.	Thermom. N.	Rain. In. Pts.	Weather.
May 26	29.9	46	63	—	Clear
27	29.95	45	68	—	Ditto
28	30.	44	74	—	Ditto
29	29.8	48	68	—	Ditto
30	29.91	46	76	—	Ditto
31	30.15	45	69	—	Ditto
June 1	30.2	44	60	—	Ditto
2	30.2	45	75	—	Ditto
3	30.1	51	58	—	Ditto
4	29.91	45	52	—	Ditto
5	29.8	40	59	0.04	Shower
6	29.65	44	62	—	Cloudy
7	29.7	40	60	—	Clear
8	29.81	41	62	0.15	Rain
9	29.7	46	58	0.045	Shower
10	29.4	48	60	0.321	Rain
11	28.158	51	61	0.04	Shower
12	29.91	47	58	0.03	Ditto
13	29.9	45	61	0.01	Hail
14	29.8	44	68	0.04	Shower
15	29.85	50	65	—	Clear
16	29.7	50	62	0.03	Shower
17	29.61	50	62	0.04	Ditto
18	29.75	50	59	0.16	Rain
19	29.85	47	58	—	Clear
20	30.	48	62	—	Ditto
21	30.05	45	68	—	Ditto
22	30.	51	72	—	Ditto
23	30.03	52	80	—	Ditto
24	29.8	48	62	0.04	Shower
25	29.65	47	58	0.03	Ditto
	Quantity of Rain			0.976	

High Water at LEITH For JULY 1805.

Days.	Morn. H.	Morn. M.	Even. H.	Even. M.
M. 1	5	11	5	32
T. 2	5	53	6	16
W. 3	6	43	7	11
Th. 4	7	44	8	19
Fr. 5	8	54	9	29
Sa. 6	10	47	10	36
Su. 7	11	16	11	29
M. 8	11	52	—	—
Tu. 9	0	23	0	50
W. 10	1	11	1	32
Th. 11	1	51	2	10
Fr. 12	2	28	2	47
Sa. 13	3	5	3	24
Su. 14	3	42	4	1
M. 15	4	19	4	38
T. 16	4	56	5	15
W. 17	5	33	5	52
Th. 18	6	10	6	29
Fr. 19	6	47	7	16
Sa. 20	7	52	8	26
Su. 21	9	15	10	1
M. 22	10	43	11	21
Tu. 23	—	—	0	5
W. 24	0	40	1	6
Th. 25	1	29	1	52
Fr. 26	2	12	2	32
Sa. 27	2	51	3	11
Su. 28	3	29	3	47
M. 29	4	6	4	24
Tu. 30	4	45	5	5
W. 31	5	26	5	46

MOON's PHASES FOR JULY 1805.

Apparent time at Edinburgh.

	D.	H.	M.	
First Quart.	3.	6	18.	Even.
Full Moon,	11.	8	49.	Even.
Last Quart.	19.	3	13.	Even.
New Moon,	26.	6	8.	Morn.

July 11. Court of Session rises.

THE

THE Scots Magazine, AND EDINBURGH LITERARY MISCELLANY, FOR JUNE 1805.

DESCRIPTION *of the* VIEW.

THE Brough or Headland of Culswick, with the ancient Pictish Fort, represented in the View, are situated in the parish of Sandsting, in the *Mainland*, as the largest of the Shetland islands is called.

All the Pictish Forts (or *Pechts broughs*, as they are provincially denominated in Shetland) are of similar form and dimensions, being exact geometrical circles, the interior area of which is about thirty feet in diameter. The principal wall is generally about twelve feet thick, composed of large stones, but without mortar. In the body of this thick wall are generally four oblong recesses or chambers, opening to the interior area. One small door or entrance only penetrates the wall. In front of this entrance, the remains of a curtain may generally be traced. The site of these forts or watch-towers is uniformly such, that they could communicate by signals with other similar forts on either hand. Although very massy structures, they are all completely ruinous, scarcely any of them remaining more complete than the one at Culswick.

Biographical Account of ARTHUR MURPHY, *Esq.*

ON the 18th of June 1805 this venerable ornament of British Literature closed his days at his apartments in Brompton-row, Knightsbridge. He was born in Ireland, and descended from a very respectable family in that country. He was sent very early in life to the College of St. Omer's, where he remained till his eighteenth year, and was at the head of the Latin Class when he quitted the School. He was indeed an excellent Latin Scholar, and very well acquainted with the Greek language, when he returned to his native country. Soon after his return to Ireland he was sent into this country, and placed under the protection of a near relation, a person high in the mercantile world. It was intended by this relation that Mr Murphy should engage in commercial pursuits, but Literature and the Stage soon drew his attention, and wholly absorbed his mind.

He had a brother who went to the West Indies very soon after Mr Murphy came to England, and the latter became security to the amount of five hundred pounds for the former, who unfortunately fell a victim to the climate, just as he had the prospect of acquiring a considerable fortune. The success of Mr Murphy

phy's first Tragedy, *The Orphan of China*, enabled him to get rid of the pecuniary obligation above-mentioned; and he paid the money immediately from the profits of the Play, with no other regret on the occasion than what arose from the loss of an excellent brother.

Mr Murphy's mother lived to a very advanced age, and never was there a more dutiful and affectionate son. Indeed he never had fortitude, after her death, to look over any letters or papers belonging to her, as they would have reminded him too sensibly of the loss of so good a parent, as he often declared that she had uniformly been.

Mr Murphy was tempted to venture, upon theatrical boards, and made several attempts to acquire reputation as an actor; but though he always displayed judgement, he wanted those splendid powers which are essential to the acquisition of fame and fortune in that arduous walk of life. He was, however, wholly undeserving of the brutal attack on his talents as an Actor, which Churchill directed against him, chiefly from motives of party prejudice. Mr Murphy answered the scurrilities of that energetic, but coarse and furious Bard, in a very humourous Ode addressed to *the Naiads of Fleet Ditch*, and in a very spirited Poem, entitled *Expostulation*, in which he modestly, but firmly, vindicated his literary character against all the assaults of his various opponents. Mr Murphy, however, withdrew from the Stage, and employed himself in the study of the Law; he made two attempts to become a Member of *the Temple*, and of *Gray's Inn*, but was rejected on the illiberal plea that he had been upon the Stage. He found more elevated sentiments in the Members of Lincoln's Inn, and from thence obtained admission to the Bar. The Dramatic Muse, however, so much engaged his attention, that the law was always a secondary consideration.

In the course of his life he sent twenty pieces to the Stage, most of which were successful, and several of which will certainly retain an established rank among what are called *Stock-pieces* of the Theatre. It should have been observed that he first started into the Literary World with a series of Essays in the manner of the *Spectator*, entitled *The Gray's Inn Journal*, which displayed great observation and knowledge of life for so young an author, as, according to his own account, he was but twenty-one, when as he used to say, "he had the impudence to write a Periodical Paper during the time that Johnson was publishing his *Rambler*."

At one period of his life Mr Murphy came forward as a political writer, though without putting his name to his productions. The works of this kind which were well known to have been the issue of his pen, were *The Test*, and *The Auditor*, by which he powerfully supported the operations of Government at that time; and consequently exposed himself to all the virulence of party spirit. He has shewn his taste and elegance as a scholar, by a Latin Version of *The Temple of Fame*, and of Gray's celebrated *Elegy*, as well as other admired English Poems, and a masterly translation of the works of Tacitus.

Mr Murphy had many squabbles with several contemporary wits; but though he never quietly received a blow, he was never the first to give one. We cannot sum up his character better than in the following words, written by his friend Mr Jesse Foote, who prolonged his life by relieving him, some years ago, from an illness of the most alarming kind, whom he has appointed his Executor, and to whom he has entrusted all his Manuscripts:

"He

"He lived in the closest friendship with the most polished authors and greatest lawyers of his time; his knowledge of the Classics was profound; his translations of the Roman historians enlarged his fame; his dramatic productions were inferior to none of the time in which he flourished. The pen of the poet was particularly adorned by the refined taste of the critic. He was author of *The Grecian Daughter*, *All in the Wrong*, *the Way to Keep Him*, *The Orphan of China*, *The Citizen*, and many other esteemed dramatic productions. The moderation of his ambition, and the modesty of his nature, inclined his genius to court the retirement of his study in preference to the pursuits of an active life. As a man of high talents and a warm heart, he lived honoured; and, as a very devout Christian, he was long resigned to the will of his Creator. In these words he was often heard to repeat from Pope,"

"Half taught by reason, half by mere decay,
To welcome death and calmly pass away."

Biographical Account of FONTANA, *the celebrated Naturalist.*

THE Chevalier Felix Fontana, Director of the Royal Museum of Florence, died in that city on the 9th of March, at the age of about 76 years. He expired, to use a happy expression of his own rival, Fabroni, *full of his glory*. He was seized about 27 days before with an apoplexy, with which he fell down half dead: the Duc de Bonnelli, who was passing at the time, ran to his assistance. This attack scarcely left him the necessary degree of recollection for settling the disposal of his effects in favour of his parents, his friends, and domestics. The physical sciences have lost, in the person of Fontana, a man who cultivated them with the greatest ardour. Italy in particular regrets in him one of her brightest ornaments. He had a wonderful talent at observation; he possessed great vigour of conception, an uncommon clearness of judgement, and a perseverance even to obstinacy in whatever he undertook. Of this, the laborious and multiplied experiments which he made on the poison of the viper, furnish a strong proof, as well as all those experiments by which he has thrown additional light on various parts of animal œconomy. The cabinet of Florence owes to his persevering courage, which was only roused the more by difficulties and obstacles, the vast collection, the only one of the kind in Europe, of models in wax of every sort, executed under his most assiduous direction. To him also it is indebted for two statues in wood, which may be decomposed. The one could not be finished during his lifetime, and perhaps never will after his death. One is astonished in learning that it is already composed of six thousand different pieces of wood, designed to shew the whole system, the entrails and membranes of the human body. These labours, though assiduously pursued, still left him time to cultivate the other branches of physical science, upon which he has published works in Italian and French. His language was eloquent and perspicuous, a quality which he shared with his celebrated brother Gregoire Fontana. He has left his friends and the learned a regret at his death, equal to the high reputation which he acquired with his cotemporaries, and will acquire with posterity. His obsequies have been celebrated with great solemnity in his parish; his body was opened in the presence of the most celebrated professors; his remains have been deposited in a leaden coffin, with the principal circumstances

cumstances of his life written on parchment, which has been inclosed in a metallic tube well soldered. The coffin, placed in a case of fir, was three days after carried and deposited in the earth under the public chapel of the minor conventical brothers of St Croix, beside the ashes of Galileo and Viviani; of Michael Angelo, and Machiavel. One of his executors M. Pierre Ferroni, a celebrated mathematician, will exert all his care and zeal, to make known to the republic of letters the precious manuscripts left by this celebrated physician.

Celestial Phenomena *for July* 1805.

Tuesday, July 2d.

THE Planet Saturn will be in quadrature with the sun about 57 minutes after 4 o'clock in the morning, in longitude 6^s..9°..46'..39", and latitude 2°..29'..46" North. His declination is then 1°..34'..13" south, and the time of his southing 5^h..50' in the afternoon.

Wednesday, July 3d.

The first satellite of Jupiter will emerge from behind his shadow at 3 minutes and 9 seconds after eleven o'clock in the morning.

Friday, July 5th.

About a quarter past 9 o'clock in the evening, all the satellites of Jupiter are situated on the eastern side of his disc, and are placed uncommonly near each other. The first is nearest, and the fourth farthest from the planet.

Saturday, July 6th.

The Planet Mars will be in conjunction with *e Leonis*, a star of the 4.5 magnitude, situated in the hough of the Lion; in longitude 5^s..15°..19'..49", and latitude 1°..41'..50" North. The latitude of Mars being 46 minutes, the nearest approach of their centers will be 5'..50", and the planet will pass to the south of the star.

Tuesday, July 9th.

The Georgium Sidus will be in quadrature with the Sun at 47 minutes after 4 o'clock in the evening, in longitude 6^s..16°..35'..56", and latitude 37 minutes North. Its declension is then 6°..5' South, and the time of its southing 5^h..28 in the evening.

Thursday, July 11th.

Visible Eclipse of the Moon.

The Eclipse will commence at 50 minutes and 40 seconds after six o'clock in the evening, when the Moon is below the horizon. The Moon will rise eclipsed about 55 minutes after 7 o'clock. Total darkness will commence at 41 seconds after 8 o'clock. The Middle of the Eclipse will happen, or the Moon will have transited one half of the Earth's shadow at 46 minutes after 8 o'clock. The Ecliptic conjunction will take place at 48 minutes and 41 seconds after 8 o'clock. Total darkness will end at 40 minutes and 41 seconds after 9 o'clock; and the Moon will be quite free from the Earth's shadow, or the Eclipse will end, at 50 minutes and 41 seconds after 10 o'clock in the evening. The digits eclipsed are 16°..26' on the North part of the Earth's shadow. About the Middle of this Eclipse the Moon will be vertical to Cape St Vincent in the Island of Madagascar, having 21°..50' of South latitude, and 44 degrees of East longitude. The Eclipse therefore will be visible to the inhabitants of Africa, and the Western kingdoms of America.

Friday, July 12th.

About a quarter past 9 o'clock in the evening, the *First* and *Third* satellites of Jupiter will be in conjunction on the Eastern side of his disc. The

second

second and fourth are placed on the same side; the fourth being nearest, and the second farthest from the planet.

Sunday July 17th.

The planet Mercury will arrive at his superior conjunction with the sun, about 47 minutes after 12 o'clock noon.

Friday, July 19th.

About 8 minutes and 25 seconds after 9 o'clock in the evening, the *third* satellite of Jupiter will emerge from behind his shadow;—and about 10 minutes afterwards, namely at 19 minutes and 56 seconds after 9 o'clock, the *Fourth* satellite of Jupiter will also emerge from his shadow.

Saturday, July 20th.

The Planet Mars will be in conjunction with *β Virginis*, a star of the 3 magnitude, situated in the Virgin's Southern wing, in longitude 5ˢ..24°..23′..49″. The latitude of Mars being then 35 minutes North, and that of *β Virginis* 41′..35″, the distance of their centers at the time of conjunction will be 6′..35″, and the planet will pass to the south of the star.

Tuesday, July 23d.

The Sun will enter the sign *Leo*, at 18 minutes after 9 o'clock in the morning.

Wednesday, July 24th.

The Planet JUPITER will be stationary in longitude 7ˢ..26°..27″..40″, and latitude 46 minutes North. He souths at 7ʰ..12′ in the evening.

Friday, July 26th.

The Sun will be eclipsed invisible in this country. The conjunction happens at 8 minutes after 6 o'clock in the morning. The latitude of the Sun and Moon is then 4°..2°..44′..11″, and the Moon's latitude 1°..28′..30″ south.

Wednesday, July 31st.

About 16 minutes after 9 o'clock in the evening, all the satellites of Jupiter will be situated on the Western side of his disc, in the same order as they lie in the system, the first being nearest and the fourth farthest from the planet.

Murrayfield, }
June 20th 1805. } *D. B.*

Memoirs of the Progress of MANUFACTURES, CHEMISTRY, SCIENCE, *and the* FINE ARTS.

IN our memoirs for March last we laid before our readers the elements of the orbit of the new planet JUNO, as deduced from the observations of Burckhardt. It appears, however, from more accurate observations, that the period of Juno is 5½ years; the inclination of her orbit 21°; her eccentricity ¼ of the radius; her mean distance thrice that of the earth, or nearly, 300 millions of miles, which is somewhat greater than the distance of Ceres; and she appears like a star of the 8th magnitude. Juno will be seen again on the 1st of October, in longitude 4ˢ..28°..22′, and latitude 6°..21′ south. She is situated between the constellations *Leo* and the Sextant, about *seven* degrees south of *Regulus*, or *α Leonis*, a star of the first magnitude, in the Lion's heart.

New processes for watering hemp in two hours time, without injuring its quality, have been discovered by M. BRALLE of Amiens, and published by order of the minister of the interior. A quantity of green soap, equal to $\frac{8}{100}$ part of the weight of the hemp to be steeped, is dissolved in water heated to the temperature of from 72° to 75° of Reamur, or 200 of Fahrenheit. When the hemp is immersed in the fluid, the vessel is closed, and the fire extinguished; and after continuing in a state of macera-

tion

tion for 2 hours, the bundles are taken out and covered with a layer of straw, so as to cool gradually without losing their humidity. Next day they are spread on a floor, the bands pushed to the top of the stem, and a heavy roller passed several times over them, in order to crush them, and dispose the tow to be easily separated from the reed, which is effected by beating. The weight of the hemp should be to that of the water as 48 to 650; and after one parcel has been taken out of the vessel, several others may be steeped, one after another, provided that at each new immersion a quantity of soap water is added to replace what was absorbed by the preceding parcel.

A new and cheap method of purifying gold and silver has been discovered by Andrew Thomson, Esq. of Banchory, near Aberdeen. The silver is rolled out to about the thickness of a shilling; it is then coiled up spirally, and put into a crucible, the bottom of which is covered with black oxide of manganese. The silver was afterwards covered with the same oxide, and the space between the coils completely filled up. The crucible was then ignited for a quarter of an hour, when all the metal was oxided. The contents were then removed into a second crucible of a larger size, with thrice its bulk of pounded green glass; and after the glass was brought to a state of fluidity, it was suffered to cool, and the silver was found perfectly pure at the bottom when the crucible was broken. The same process answers equally well for purifying gold.

A letter from Lieutenant Van Ohlsen, employed in the astronomical and geographical measurement of Iceland, was lately read in the Academy of Sciences at Copenhagen. It contained an accurate description of the two remarkable hot springs in Iceland, the Geisser and Stork. The latter of these broke out in the year 1784, and spouted up to the height of 300 feet.

A new Pyrometer, capable of indicating the degrees of heat in a furnace, has been invented by M. J. G. Schimdt of Yassa in Moldavia. It consists merely of atmospheric air freed from moisture by caustic alkalies, and included in a platina vessel with a round bulb and a cylindrical stalk. The bulb is placed in the furnace, and the stalk communicates with a vessel of water including a thermometer and graduated tube. A farther account of the pyrometer may be seen in Nicolson's Journal, No. 42. p. 141.

A new, easy, and economical method of separating copper from silver has been discovered by M. Gottling. As it is too long for insertion here, we must refer the reader to the Philosophical Magazine, No. 84. p. 352.

M. Biot, of the National Institute of France, has endeavoured to shew that the electric spark is merely a mechanical effect, arising from the light disengaged by the compression of the air during the passage of the electric fluid. This new and ingenious explanation, we presume is confirmed, by the following considerations: Wherever the air is rapidly compressed, a quantity of light and heat is constantly disengaged. This is evident from the flash which appears in the ball of an air-gun, and from the rise of the mercury in condensed air. Now, Berthollet has shewn, in his *Statique Chymique*, that electricity in traversing Bodies, produces in their molecular a real compression. It therefore follows, from these premises, that light must be disengaged during the passage of the electric fluid thro' aeriform fluids, and that what is called the electric spark is a mechanical phenomenon, and has nothing in it electric.

Murrayfield,
June 26th, 1805. } D. B.

My

My Lord Killsyth *his Accompt dew to* Alex Wood, *Cook, Burgis in* Edinbrugh.

[This remnant of antiquity will, we think, appear curious to our readers as giving a view both of the manner of living, and of the prices which different articles bore at the time, the latter, of course, are in Scots money]

1672.		lb.	s.	d.
Junij 12.	Imprimis for ane pair of chikins	00	12	0
	Item for ane lambleg	00	10	0
	Item for ane dish of whytins	00	8	0
	Item to breakfast six cherts and six neats	00	10	4
13.	Item to diner ane dish of broth and ane lambleg	00	12	0
	Item for ane dish of whytines	00	8	0
	Item for ane pair of chikines	00	12	0
14.	Item at breakfast for ane dish of collops	00	6	0
	Item to diner two dish of broth and ane dish of whytines	00	12	0
	Item for ane lambleg	00	10	0
	Item for ane dish of whytines	00	8	0
	Item at super ane dish of milk and bread	00	8	0
	Item for ane pair of chikins	00	12	0
15.	Item to diner two dish of broth	00	4	0
	Item for ane dish of whytines	00	10	0
	Item for ane lambleg	00	12	0
	Item for ane pair of chikins	00	12	0
	Item at super ane dish of milk and bread	00	8	0
16.	Item at diner two dish of broth	00	4	0
	Item for ane cost of muton	00	14	0
	Item for ane showlder of muton	01	4	0
	Item for ane lambleg	00	12	0
	Item for ane sallad	00	6	0
	Item for ane pair of chikins	01	4	0
	Item for collops to breakfast	00	4	0
17.	Item for ane dish of broth and ane bakribs of muton	00	10	0
	Item for ane showlder muton	01	0	0
	Item for ane dish of whytins	00	8	0
	Item for ane pair of chikins	00	12	0
	Item at super for milk and bread	00	8	0
	Item for ane pair of chikins	00	12	0
18.	Item for ane dish of broth and ane bakribs of mutton	00	10	0
	Item for ane showlder of muton	01	0	0
	Item at super ane dish of milk and bread	00	8	0
	Item for ane pair of chikins	00	12	0
19.	Item for ane dish of milk and bread	00	8	0
	Item for ane pair of chikins	00	12	0
	Item for candell	00	12	0
20.	Item at breakfast	00	16	0
	Item for challmber maill	10	8	0
	Summa	31	18	4
	Item thair is dew to Helen Purvess per acoumpt	12	5	8
	Tottall is	41	3	0

I Alexander Wood grantes me to have recaved this above writin acompt, as witness my hand at Edhr. the 21. of Junij 1672. Alexander Wood.

June 1805.

FROM this seemingly unimportant subject, a great deal of curious, and even useful information, may be extracted, by attending to the circumstances peculiar to the different classes into which these marks of family distinction are naturally divided.

Thus, whenever we find surnames of which the etymology is either obscure, of foreign extraction, or altogether unknown, the origin of such families may very safely be ascribed to the ages of antiquity, to the Norman conquest, or to one or other of the different influx of foreigners that have so frequently, either in a friendly, or in a hostile manner, come into this country.

In proof of this, it may be remarked, that the greater part of the ancient nobility and gentry are thus derived. Such as the surnames of Allen, Agnew, Agar, Bruce, Burnett, Bertie, Courtenay, Campbell, Cumin; Douglas, Drummond, Dillon; Elliot, Erskine, Eden; Foulis, Forbes, Fraser; Gordon, Graham Goring; Howard, Herbert, Hope; Ingram, Irwin, Jervis; Kerr, Keith, Kennedy; Lesley, Lambert, Lutterel; Montague, Mordaunt, Maitland; Napier, Noel, Nevil; Ogle, Ogilvie, Osborne; Percy, Pelham, Pringle; Quin, Rowley, Ramsay, Russel, Seymour, Sinclair, Spencer; Talbot, Tallemache, Thurlow; Wentworth, Wynne, Wallace; Villiers, Vane, Verney; Yonge, Yelverton, &c.

There is also another class of surnames that in general denotes great antiquity, and of which a considerable part of the nobility and gentry consist, viz. such as are derived from the names of places, or have given name to them. The following may be stated as examples among many; Arundel, Arbuthnot, Abercrombie; Berkeley, Barrington, Borthwick; Coventry, Crawford, Cathcart; Dundass; Elphinstone; Fullarton; Grant, Hamilton; Innes, Johnstone; Livingstone; Menzies, Murray, Montgomerie; Netterville; Purves; Riddel, Ross; Somerset, Sutherland; York. This mark of antiquity is, however, not so unequivocal as the first; for although many ancient families, as above, have their surnames from particular places, which either were or still are in their possession, yet all that are so designed are not ancient. For it is by no means uncommon for new families to *call their lands by their own name*, and many have their surnames from towns and counties who never had any property there.

A very considerable proportion of all ranks is denominated from what is properly called the *Sir*-name, which is taken from the name of the father or most honourable progenitor of the tribe; and when this is expressed in the ancient language of the country, it is a pretty sure indication of remote antiquity. In England, this ancient Sirname is expressed in the old Norman dialect by *Fitz*, meaning a son; in Scotland by *Mac*, a son also; and in Ireland, by *O*, a grandson; all prefixed to the proper name of the progenitor. Of the first, the following families have attained to the Peerage; Fitzwalter, Fitzgerald, Fitzherbert, Fitzwilliam, (2) Fitzgibbon, Fitzpatrick, Fitzmaurice, and Fitzroy, (2), but this last is rather the mark of descent than of antiquity, being the illegitimate offspring of Charles II. Of the Sirname by Mac, the following have attained to the Peerage; Macdonald, Macdonnel, Mackenzie, (2) Mackay, Macgill, Maclellan, Macdowal, and Macartney; and by O, in like manner in the Peerage, O'Brien, (2) O'Neil,

O'Neil, O'Callaghan, and O'Hara. In Wales *ap* originally prefixed to the name of the father had the same import, as ap Rice, ap-Howel, ap-Evon, the son of Rice—of Howel—of Evon The two first were soon contracted to Price and Powel, and still indicate antiquity, but the more common practice of expressing the Sirname plainly, Evans, Edwards, Johns, or Williams, is a modern device which tends to confound ancient families with the commonalty of that country, who change the Sirname every generation, by adding for their own Sirname the genetive S to the proper name of their immediate progenitor. *Ex.* William, the son of John Edwards, will call himself William Johnes, or Jones, and his own son Edward, will in like manner call himself Edward Williams, so that were this practice general, all family distinction, so far as depends upon Sirname, would be involved in utter confusion *.

That branch of Sirname that is formed by adding *son* in plain English to the proper name of the progenitor, is like the English language itself, more modern, and besides, that there are fewer of the nobility of this denomination, their elevation to the Peerage is but of recent date; the most ancient at present on the list being *Watson* Lord Sondes; created such only 45 years ago, since which there has been only eight more of this class added, viz. Robinson, (2) Leeson, Dawson, Acheson, Jenkinson, Nelson, and Hutchinson. *Saunderson* Earl of Scarsborrough is no proper exception to this, that being only an assumed name at no remote period, the original name being *Lumley*, which is indeed a name of great antiquity †. There was indeed a *Robertson*, now changed to *Collier*, Earl of Portmore, of pretty ancient date; but that name itself is perhaps among the most ancient of this class, its chief having possessed under that name his present lands in Athol for more than 400 years.

Of proper names, almost every one may be adduced as surnames. The following are in the peerage, but, except the first, of no great antiquity: Peter, Alexander, Duncan, and Mathew.

The surnames derived from the diminutives of proper names, such as Dick, Thom, Jamie, Will, Watt, Rob, Sim, Saunders, Pate, with their own progeny of Dickson, Thomson, Jamieson, &c. must all have sprung originally from the lower orders, if not from illegitimacy; as is most probably the case with all surnames derived from the names of women, such as Alison, Mollison, Nelson, Beatson, and Christieson, as well as Christie, or rather Chirstie itself, that being the usual appellation

* Not unsimilar to this is the practice in the Imperial Family of Russia, where the children take the name of their own father as a Sirname: *Ex.* Peter Alexowitz. Paul Petrowitz, Alexander Paulowitz. They have even a feminine declension *owna* instead of *owitz*. *Ex.* Elisabeth Iwanowna, Ann Paulowna, &c. But here there is no danger of confusion, the family being too dignified to admit of doubt as to lineage.

† It is related, that when our sagacious monarch James VI. was on his journey south to London to take possession of the English crown, he lodged one night at Lumley castle, between Newcastle and Durham. That the chaplain of the family, in conducting the Royal visitor through the gallery of family portraits, took occasion to expatiate on the vast antiquity of his patrons ancestors, tracing them through an almost endless genealogy. His Majesty, who foresaw where this was to end, and unwilling to be longer detained on the subject, cut him short at once with "stop, stop, man, I never kend before that Adam's surname was Lumley."

tion of Christian, which, in Scotland, is a woman's name.

It would be an endless task to trace the origin of every surname, nor is it here meant to be attempted; but still a few observations more may be indulged, particularly on such as have attained in this country to celebrity.

Thus we may observe, that official station and rank have given rise to many dignified families that still continue in power and affluence, although the station or rank that their ancestors held has long since ceased to be enjoyed, such as Stuar , Marischal, Constable, Butler, King, Dean, Monk, Knight, Falconer, Forrester, Bishop, Archdeacon, Treasurer, Chamberlaine, &c. There are now about twenty of the prime Nobility of these surnames exclusive of the four last, which have not yet attained to that honour.

Some surnames again denote the nation or people from whence the families are derived, as Scott, Fleming, French, (which have all attained to the Peerage) Inglis, and Welch. Nobody has however yet thought of distinguishing themselves by the name of Irish, yet Ireland is not uncommon as a surname, as also England, Scotland, Wales, France, and Holland. Almost every town and country indeed has given rise to a surname.

The Cardinal points South, East, North, West, are all surnames, of which the two last are in the Peerage.

Parts of the body have been assumed as surnames, as Foot, Hand, Tongue, Head, Heart, Beard, Belly, Shank, Leg, of which last there are two families in the Peerage; and of dress and armour, such as Sword, Spear, Shield, Buckle, Greaves or Graves, Hood, Cuff. Of the three last surnames there are five peers of the realm.

The colours form a numerous and brilliant class, as Green, Red, Black, Blue, Brown, of which name there are several in the Peerage; White lately raised to it, and Grey, which has been for ages on the list of nobility, and had once nigh secured the crown.

From animals a numerous race are surnamed, and of high dignity. Guelph, the German for wolf, is the surname of the illustrious house of Brunswick, and of course of the Royal Family of Great Britain; and in the list of the peerage are the following, Lyon, Griffin, Wolf, Fox, Lamb, Hare, Hawk, Coote, Cocks, and Finch.

There are remarkably few surnames taken from the sea, notwithstanding our intimate connection with it. Shore, lately advanced to the Peerage, seems the only one of respectability: for of the few others in use, such as Herring, Haddock, Crab, Whale, and Hulk, they seem rather to have been imposed as nicknames, than assumed as surnames of distinction.

A considerable number of surnames are derived from the Gælic, such as Roy, *Red*; Bane, *White*; Ogg, *Young*; More, *Great*; Begg, *Little*; none of them have however attained to much distinction, except *Duff* Earl Fife, and of the same import Dove and Dow, all of which signify *Black*.

There are several surnames derived from personal qualifications or circumstances, such as Smart, Sharp, Jolly, Fair, Short, Small, Strong, Little, and even some from personal reproach or deformity: as Waddle, Croookshanks, Bastard, Trollope, &c. which in some of the cases may have been assumed by, and in others imposed on, the parties, of which the wonder is, how their descendants do not contrive to alter them, which is often done in other cases, where nothing opprobrious attaches from the name. There can be no doubt also, that many surnames are corrupted

rupted undesignedly in the hands of illiterate people, of which perhaps there cannot be shown a stronger instance of than in the surnames Death and Devil, from De Ath, De Ville.

But the most numerous of all the classes of surnames, is that which has arisen from trade and occupation, there being very few handicrafts that has not given surname to particular families; and even these must be of considerable antiquity, as the different employments of men would be an obvious distinction at the first assumption of surnames among the great body of the people which it is believed took place in this country about the end of the 13th or beginning of the 14th century But as in these rude ages the path to honour would rarely lie in the way of rustics and mechanics, it would be long before many families of this class could attain to rank or distinction, and in fact there are few or none thus derived that lay claim to much renown, till within these 150 or 200 years; although in the present day the number, even in the higher ranks, thus descended, is very considerable, and even among them some are named from professions which one would scarce expect that almost any family could have chosen to be distinguished. Thus Collier and Salter, which were originally professions held in great disrepute (so much so as to be conducted only with bondmen) are now the names of very respectable families; as well as Dempster, which was originally the public executioner.

The following surnames from this Plebeian origin are now enrolled in the class of nobility: Taylor, Collier, Cooper, Carpenter, Turner, Ryder, Smith, Litster, and Gardiner or Gardner, consisting of the families of one Marquis, six Earls, two Viscounts and four Barons.

On the whole, it is a most gratifying reflection, that, as on the one hand such a numerous race of dignified nobility and opulent gentry can be traced back to almost the most remote period of our authentic history, which shews that the noble and exalted virtues which first brought them into distinction have continued to influence and animate their posterity so as to bring them down to the present day with their fortunes and honours unimpaired; so, on the other hand, from the encouraging, and mild influence of British laws and manners, the temple of honour is not restricted to the ancient aristocracy (as in many other countries in Europe) but is open to the brave and the ingenious in every department of life.

It may be proper to remark, that similarity of surname in those classes derived from the diminutive of proper names and from trade and occupation, affords no ground to conclude a relationship between the parties, as multitudes totally unconnected with one another would chuse or have imposed upon them some surname originally. For the same reason such surnames as are derived from the diminutives of proper names may have no affinity whatever with the proper name itself. *Ex.* There is no affinity between the surnames Jackson and Johnson; Dickson and Richardson; Wilson and Williamson; nor between Robinson and Robertson, although these two last are frequently, but very improperly, taken the one for the other. The arms of the respective names are completely different.

Mearns. *G. R.*

Ceremonial of Reception of Lord Stair *when going as Ambassador to* Paris *in* 1715.

My Lord Stair arrived at Paris the 26th of January 1715, N. S and went to Versailles the Tuesday following, where he visited Monsieur

Monsieur de Torcy; and being by that Minister introduced to the King, delivered to his Most Christian Majesty a letter from the King, conceived in form of a credential, but giving his Lordship no other character than that of Gentleman of the Bed-chamber, and Privy Councellor.

After the death of Louis the XIVth, my Lord had a letter in the same form sent him from England, which his Lordship delivered to Louis the XVth, and remained at the Court of France without taking any other character than that of Minister from the Court of Great Britain, till the month of August 1717. The 7th of that month his Lordship had his first private audience of the Most Christian King as Ambassador Extraordinary from the King of Great Britain, and next day sent to acquaint the Ambassadors and foreign Ministers with his arrival at Paris, as is usual.

For some months before his Lordship had his audience as Ambassador, he did not go to the King's Court, because, after having been in use to enter with his coach at the great gate of the King's Court of the Louvre, the Swiss, one day, by order of the Marechal de Villeroy, the King's governor, refused to let his Lordship's coach enter. My Lord had complained of that usage as injurious to the right of the British Peerage, who, he insisted, should have the same honours paid them at the Court of France as the Grandees of Spain and the Peers of France, as to the entry of the Louvre, and other distinctions; and refused to go to his audience, unless he was allowed to enter directly at the great gate with his coaches. They insisted to have his coaches come about by the little Court of the Princes, and to stay there till he had delivered his credentials to the King, as other Ambassadors did with theirs: but my Lord still refused to submit to that, and the expedient found to remove that difficulty was, that my Lord should deliver his credentials first to the Duke of Orleans, Regent, and so be reputed Ambassador, and have the entry of the Louvre, &c. which his Lordship did; and going to his audience, entered with his coaches at the great gate, followed by those of the Earl of Essex and my Lord Lempster.

There were affairs of very great importance in agitation at the Court of France at that time, which did not come to a perfect conclusion till the end of the month of December 1718, and, till that time, gave my Lord no time to order the necessary preparations for his public entry. His Lordship fixed at last the 5th of February 1719, N. S. for the day of his public entry; which Mr Crawfurd, the Secretary to the embassy, communicated to M. de Sainctot, introductor of the Ambassadors, Tuesday the 24th of January, at the Regents Court at the Palais Royal, and desired him to advertize the proper officers who were to order the fitting up of the Hotel des Ambassadeurs for my Lord's reception, which was to be in a new manner, not practised for many years before.

The Extraordinary Ambassadors formerly, while they lodged the three days at the Hotel des Ambassadeurs, had only a present from the King of a certain quantity of bread, wine, meat, and fowl, which they were obliged to have dressed by their own officers, and to use their own plate and linen; which was very troublesome and expensive to the Ambassadors, who were obliged to furnish the deserts themselves, and a great many other things. It was therefore upon this occasion proposed to M. le Duc, lately made Great Master of the King's household, to change that mean way of entertaining the Extraordinary Ambassadors, and to order

their

their entertainment to be entirely at the King's expence, and by his officers plate, &c.

The good understanding happily established betwixt the two nations, and the personal esteem which my Lord Stair had acquired at the court of France, made the proposal easily agreed to. In consequence of which, M. de Sainctot desired Mr Crawfurd to let him have a note of the people that my Lord desired to have lodgings for at the Hotel des Ambassadeurs, and of the tables and number of covers that his Lordship wanted during the three days entertainment. Mr Crawfurd, after having received his Excellency's directions, thereupon gave M. de Sainctot the following states:

Lodgings at the HOTEL *des* AMBASSADEURS.

For his Excellency,
A Secretary,
2 Valets de Chambres,
2 Pages, and
6 Footmen.

My Lord made the demand very moderate in this point, because it was represented to his Excellency, that by this new manner of entertaining him they were obliged to lodge at the Hotel des Ambassadeurs a great number of the King's officers of different sorts, to take care of the plate of the crown, and other things, which were brought thither for the entertainment. There was brought the value of 600,000 livres of plate.

TABLES.

2 tables of 30 covers each, equally served, and at the same time.
2 second tables, for the Gentlemen and the Pages, of 20 covers each.
2 other tables, for the Maitres d'Hotel, and my Lord's other officers, of 20 covers each.

Tuesday the 31st of January, two days before the messages were to be sent to the Princes and Princesses of the blood, and to the Ambassadors and Envoys, Mr Crawfurd told M. de Sainctot, at the Duke of Orleans's court at the Palais Royal, that my Lord Stair had an intention to send a compliment and message to the Duke de Charters for his coach, since, by the arrest of the council, registered in the Parliament of Paris, dispensing with his nonage, he had taken place in the council of Regency, and had a voice, and that his Excellency wanted to know if it would be agreeable to the Duke of Orleans. Upon which M de Sainctot made the proposal to his Royal Highness, who received it very graciously, and said he was very glad to have his son begin the rank of visiting with my Lord Stair; but that he was afraid there would be a difficulty in the reception, and conducting, since the Duc de Chartres had no house of his own; for being only lodged with his father, he could not come further than the door of his own apartment, to do the honours, neither at the reception nor the conducting of the Ambassadors; but would be obliged to stop there, as other Princes of the blood do when they lodge in the King's house. Mr Crawfurd told my Lord the answer that M de Sainctot had given him. His Excellency said, that his own private opinion was, that at this conjuncture he ought not to make any difficulty with the Duke de Chartres; but that not being willing to take upon him the decision of a point of that kind, he would write to England, to have orders about it before the time of visiting came, and in the mean time send his compliment, and desire the Duke de Chartres to send his coach.

Thursday the 2d of February the messages were sent to the Princes and Princesses of the blood, and to the Ambassadors of the powers in friendship with our court.

Major Gardner, his Excellency's first Gentleman of the Horse, carried the

the message to the Duke of Chartres at the Palais-Royal; and M. le Duc, and to Madame la Duchesse, who were lodged at the Louvre. M. du Gennes and M. du Vernet two officers in the army in his Lordship's house, carried the messages to the other Princes and Princesses of the blood, and to the Ambassadors, that same day. M. du Vernet, one of those Gentlemen, carried the messages to the Envoys next day. The message was notifying his Excellency's arrival at Paris, and that he was ready to make his public entry, Sunday next, the 5th, and desiring them to do him the honour to send their coaches to it. That the rendesvous was to be à la Raquette.

The house of Rambouillet, from whence the Protestant Ambassadors used formerly to begin the march of their entries, having been lately hired from the proprietor, and turned into a manufactory, my Lord was obliged to get an order from the Regent, ordering M. de Noyers, to whom the house of la Raquette belonged, to let my Lord have the use of it for some days, in order to make his entry from thence.

Saturday the 4th, my Lord sent to all the English gentlemen in Paris who used to come to his house, to invite them to come and breakfast with him next morning, the day of the entry.

Sunday the 5th, about 10 o'clock in the morning, the Earl of Huntington, and the English gentlemen, who sent their coaches to the entry, came to wait upon my Lord, and breakfast with him. There were Mr Hamilton my Lord Belhaven's eldest son, Mr Holt, Mr Gage, Mr Allen, Mr James, Mr Wolf, Colonel Douglass, Mr Hamilton Sir David Hamilton's son, Mr Stiles, Mr Hynd, and Mr Hayes. About 12 o'clock, my Lord set out privately from his own house, in a coach of the Duke de Lausun's, with my Lord Huntington and Mr Hamilton. The other gentlemen followed his Excellency, most partly in hired coaches, they having sent their equipages before à la Raquette. My Lord arrived there about half an hour after 12, where his Excellency received the compliments from the Princes and Princesses of the blood, by their Ecuyers, who were sent with their coaches, and from the Ambassadors and Envoys. Those who came with the compliment were introduced by M. de Merlin, the aid or subintroductor of the Ambassadors, and presented to his Excellency by one of his own gentlemen.

His Excellency received the compliments in the inner room of the lower apartment, advancing three or four pas from the place where his Excellency stood, to receive them, and conducting them without the door of the chamber. The Ambassador's Ecuyers, whom they send, return immediately with their coaches, to prevent disputes about the rank which might happen betwixt them at these occasions. About half an hour after one, the Marechall d'Estrées and the Chevalier de Sainctôt, came with the King's coach to conduct my Lord to the Hotel des Ambassadeurs Extraordres. My Lord received the Marechall at the entry of the vestibule, as he came out of the King's coach, and gave him the hand and the chair, my Lord being supposed to be in his own house. The march begun a little before two, in the following order:—

The March.

The Introductor's coach opened the march, after it the Maréchall d'Estrées Swiss, two of his Ecuyers and four pages a-horseback before the Maréchall's coach, which, with the Introductor's coach, are supposed to be, as they call it, *hors du rang*. At the distance of 20 or 30 pas followed my Lord Ambassador's under-Ecuyer a-horseback, at the head of

36 foot-

36 footmen; when one of the king's messengers a-horseback, six led horses led by six grooms a-horseback; next followed 12 gentlemen a-horseback, all cloathed with fine grey cloth, richly laced with silver, and the furniture of their horses all alike, and very rich and fine, the cloth of the colour of my Lord's livery: then followed my Lord's gentleman of horse at the head of 12 pages a-horseback; then the King's coach, in which were my Lord Ambassador on the Maréchal's right hand, my Lord Huntington opposite to the Maréchal, and M. de Sainctot opposite to my Lord. In Madame de Berry's coach, which followed the King's, were Mr Hamilton Belhaven, Mr Holt, Col. Douglass, and Mr Crawfurd. The other gentlemen followed in Madame's, the Duke and Dutchess of Orleans's coaches, and in those of the other Princes of the blood. After the Count de Toulouze's coach, which was the last of the Princes of the blood, followed the Abbot of Bois's coach, Minister and Secretary of State for foreign affairs; then my Lord Ambassador's, 2 Swisses a-horseback; his Excellency's first coach empty, the second also empty; the third a chariot, in which were Mr Whiteford and M. de Merlin; the fourth and fifth coaches were filled with the gentlemen who belonged more immediately to his Excellency's family. His Excellency's coaches were all drawn by eight horses. The march was closed by Mr Crawfurd's coach, the Secretary of the embassy. Then followed the coaches of the British Noblemen and Gentlemen who came to wait upon my Lord, whose names are above mentioned. They had all six horses in them, and their servants in very fine new liveries. My Lord Huntington's and Mr Hamilton's came first; the other gentlemen, having no titles, agreed among themselves, at my Lord Ambassador's request, to let their coaches follow in the order in which they stood most conveniently for marching; declaring that any precedency that should happen in that case should be of no consequence. Mr Law, director of the Bank at Paris, being a British subject, sent likewise his coach to my Lord's entry; it followed in the cortege, among those of the other British gentlemen.

About five o'clock my Lord arrived at the Hotel des Ambassadeurs, entered the door first, and took the hand of the Maréchall, till they came to the inner room, where he did the honours, supposed then to be in his own house. There were three chairs set, the Marechal sat in one opposite to that where his Excellency sat, next to the fire; the introductor in the third, on my Lord's right hand towards the door. The gentlemen that accompanied my Lord retired into the outer room for some minutes, leaving only the Marechal and the Introductor with his Excellency, supposed to be making a compliment to my Lord on his arrival. The Marechal staid with my Lord about half an hour, and then took leave of his Excellency, who conducted him to his coach, and saw it go. The Marechal returned to supper. About a quarter of an hour after the Marechal was gone, the Marquis de Gesvres, the King's first gentleman of the Bed-Chamber in waiting, came to make a compliment from the King to his Excellency. My Lord went half way down the stairs to meet him; the gentlemen of his cortege walking before his Excellency, those of the greatest quality next to him. My Lord conducted him to the foot of the stairs, and saw his coach go. The Chevalier de Hautefort, Madame de Berry's first Ecuyer, came next to make her compliments to his Excellency. My Lord did not go quite down to the middle of the stairs to receive him, and in conducting

ing, did not stay to see the coach go. The compliment from Madame was made by the Marquis de Simiane, her first Ecuyer; that from the Duke of Orleans by the Marquis de Simiane, his first gentleman of the Bed-chamber; and that from the Dutchess of Orleans by the Marquis de St Pierre, her first Ecuyer. My Lord, in doing the honours of receiving and conducting these gentlemen, who came according to the rank of their masters, observed a proportion, by doing less gradually to him who came last. The English gentlemen who came to wait upon my Lord in all these receptions and conductings. ***** *Cetera desunt.*

History of Dancing.

TO trace the origin of dancing, we must look back to those periods in the history of the world when Society existed in its simplest state. Like other arts, its first beginnings would no doubt be rude and artless. Though implanted in human nature, it requires time, experience, and observation, to improve and perfect what nature has bestowed.

The connection between dancing and the other elegant arts is striking and intimate. It goes hand in hand with Music, Painting, and Poetry; and the expression of gesture and propriety of attitude in elocution, are as necessarily connected, as elegance of expression, and harmony of periods, in writing. The song and the dance have among all nations always gone together, and painting is but a representation of the fixed attitude, and the gestural language, which are the first principles of dancing.

In the beginnings of Society, signs would naturally come before sounds, and the language of gesture be understood prior to the use of words. Words are but arbitrary and confined, but gestural language is fixed and universal. Even in the first use of sounds, to make them understood they must have been accompanied with appropriate gesticulations. The parts of speech, it has been remarked, which are the most ancient, and which undoubtedly were first used are the interjections; and these, aided by the addition of appropriate signs, would express all the wants, emotions, and passions, of the earliest tribes. "If we should suppose," says Dr Blair, "a period before any "words were invented or known, it "is clear, that men could have no o-"ther method of communicating to "others what they felt, than by the "cries of passion, accompanied with "such motions and gestures as were "further expressive of passion. For "these are the only signs which na-"ture teaches all men, and which are "understood by all *." That gesture is the most ancient, natural, and niversal method of conveying our wants or passions, may be illustrated by the following example: Suppose two men, of nations whose language and manners were different, to be placed on an uninhabited island; how would they communicate their wants, or express their feelings, to one another in any other manner than by the expressive and universal language of gesture? This shews at once the indeterminate and arbitrary nature of sounds, different nations attaching to them different ideas, and makes it evident, that motions and gestures must have been used prior to the invention of expression by words.

Though modern improvement, by the substitution of words, and the improvement of language, has, in a great measure, made the language of gesticulation unnecessary; yet verbal communications are always infinitely heightened in their effect by its

* Blair's Lectures vol. II. p. 111.

its proper application. Among the ancients, motion and gesture were much more used than among the moderns. Their orators, did they speak now, would appear to us little better than enthusiasts or madmen. We must look entirely to gestural expression for the effects which their orations are said to have had on their audiences; for it is only the language of nature, and of the passions, that speaks intelligibly to all.

The following anecdotes of Garrick shows the power of gesture in moving the passions: "While he "was in Italy, the Duke of Parma "requested him to give some speci- "men of English tragedy. By way "of preparation, Garrick told him "in part the story of *Macbeth*, and "in particular the dagger scene, "when he is going to murder his "king. The company being thus "informed, Garrick displayed his "powers in that terrible situation. "His words were not understood, "but his countenance expressed "every sentiment, and every turn of "the passions. Every body present "beheld him with astonishment."— After this Garrick arrived at Paris, where he exhibited his powers in presence of a company, in which was the celebrated actress Mademoisello Clairon. After performing in several scenes, he "told the company "how he learned to act the mad- "ness of *King Lear*. This was by "his seeing his friend in Goodman- "Fields, who had dropped his child "into the area, and in consequence "of that dreadful accident went out "of his senses. Garrick imitated "the unfortunate father: he leaned "on the back of a chair, played in "dalliance with the infant, and on a "sudden seemed to let it fall. In "that instant he broke out in la- "mentations; his looks expressive "of the wildest horror, his broken "voice and dismal outcries made "the deepest impression. Tears "gushed from every eye in the "room*."

Dancing is an art founded in nature, and must, on that account, have the preference of those whose character is only imitative. Though that part of it which relates to gesture and attitude may be supposed to have existed before the communication of sounds, yet it is not to be supposed that it assumed its character, as regular and measured steps, until it was aided by songs or music. To leap or dance is a natural expression of joy; and is certainly the first rudiments of the art; but to do so in regulated time, must be referred to a period somewhat later and more improved than it could be in the first dawn of society. Arts do not rise up perfect at once, but gradually acquire improvement from study, observation, and experience. At any rate, it may be supposed, that dancing is coeval with music and poetry, for they generally accompany one another. Before the invention of musical instruments, the song was the regulator of the steps and cadences used in the dance.

It is a mistake to imagine, that music, poetry, and dancing, are arts which only take their rise in polished and civilized nations. They are all implanted by nature, and are to be found among all nations and in all countries. We must look to the wilds and to the desarts, where man existed in his simplest state, for their origin and comparative improvements, though that improvement, owing to more favourable circumstances, has been greater among some than among others. From the narratives of travellers to those parts of the world where society is yet in its infancy, we may form a pretty correct idea of what has been the case in former ages; for mankind in the beginnings of Society are generally much the same, however successive revolutions may diversify their characters. Among

* Murphy's Life of Garrick, vol. II. p. 16.

Among all the savage tribes, in the vast continent of America, with which we are acquainted, the song and the dance form the most striking part in all their assemblies. It is among them carried on and enjoyed with the highest degree of enthusiasm. In their feasts and rejoicings, and in all their religious cremonies, it is constantly used; and songs and dances celebrate their loves, their wars, their victories, and their deaths.

"In Mexico," says Gallini, "they "have their dances and music, but "in the most uncouth and barbarous "style. For their symphony they "have wooden drums, something in "form of a kettle-drum, with a kind "of pipe or flagellet, made of a "hollow cane or reed, but very "grating to an European ear. They "will also hum over something like "a tune when they dance thirty or "forty in a circle, stretching out "their hands, and laying them on "each others shoulders. They stamp "and jump, and use the most antic "gestures for several hours, till "they are heartily weary. And "one or two of the company some-"times step out of the rings to "make sport for the rest, by show-"ing feats of activity; throwing "their lances up into the air, catch-"ing them again; bending back-"wards, and springing forwards "with great agility."—"The wo-"men have their dances by them-"selves, but never mingle in those "of the men*."

Bossu, in his travels through Louisiana, has described the manners and customs of one of the Indian tribes who inhabit the western banks of the Mississippi river, which, he says, may convey a general idea of all the nations of North America. "On my arrival at the Arkanzas," says he, "the young warriors received me "with the dance of the calumet. It "is necessary that I should inform "you, that dancing enters into all "sorts of transactions with these na-"tions; they have religious, physi-"cal, merry, ceremonious, warlike, "pacific, nuptial, funeral, playful, "hunting and lewd dances: the last "is abolished since our arrival in "America."

"Before they set out to war, the "chief of the nation calls an assem-"bly, which is generally followed by "a feast, to which he invites his al-"lies. At the end of the repast "they sing and dance the dance of "war, all the young men are painted "red. It is really curious to see "them dance. He then expresses "by dance the discovery or the sur-"prise; watching his enemy, keep-"ing in a stooping posture. All "at once he falls upon him, his club "in his hand, making horrible cries, "as is done in a real action. His "comrade drops as if he were thun-"derstruck, stiffening all his muscles, "as in an epileptic, after which the "other represents dancing, the me-"thod of scalping the dead enemy; "this is done with a knife which he "has in his hand. He makes an inci-"sion on the forehead, and round the "neck of his enemy; he places his "long nails therein; he puts both his "knees against the shoulders of the "captive; and, with a sudden push "with his knees, and pull with his "hands, he takes up the skin with "the hair on it from the head. All "this is represented in singing and "dancing to the tune of a drum and "a chichikois†, which marks the "time and the cadence‡."

Dr Sparrman, in his voyage to the Cape of Good Hope, had an opportunity of observing the dances of the in-

* Gallini's obs. on dancing.
† A gourd in which they put a sort of little beads.
‡ Bossu's travels thro' Louisiana, p. 213.

inhabitants of that peninsula of Africa. Speaking of the Hottentot-Caffres, who live in a kind of pastoral simplicity, he says, "as soon as "ever they had brought their cattle "from pasture, they milked them; "an occupation they intermixed with "singing and dancing.

"We seldom," continues he, "see "such happiness and contentment as "appears to be indicated by this fes-"tive custom, in a handful of peo-"ple wholly uncivilized, and subsist-"ing in their original savage state, "in the midst of a perfect desart. "Mr Immelman accompanied me, in "order to view with his own eyes "the real archetype of that state of "pastoral felicity, which the poets "are continually occupied in paint-"ing and describing. We intro-"duced ourselves here also as being "the children of the company, and "were received by them with a "friendly simplicity and homely "freedom, which, however, by no "means lessened them in our esteem "as men. They presented us with "milk, and danced at our desire. "We were witnesses of their coun-"try-dances, in which there was very "little either of agility or wit, while "their feet were employed in a kind "of stamping and moderately slow "movement; each of them at inter-"vals made several small gentle mo-"tions with a little stick, which they "held in their hands. The simplici-"ty which prevailed in their dance "was equally observable in their "singing. They had another kind "of dance, which consisted in taking "each other by the hand, and dan-"cing gently in a circle round about "one or more persons, who were "placed in the middle of the ring, "and whose movements were brisker "and quicker*. The next morning "we were awaked by the Hottentots "singing and dancing; and with this "rejoicing, or, at least, appearance "of happiness and delight, it should "appear that this simple race of "people always begin and conclude "the day†."

Among the lately discovered islands in the Pacific Ocean, dancing seems to be carried on with more regularity and order than could be expected to be found among nations so unconnected with the civilized world. Their dances are performed with dexterity and grace, and the music though simple, is not unpleasant. One of these dances, exhibited to our countrymen by the inhabitants of one of these islands, we shall transcribe as a specimen of their manner: "The "music that accompanied the dances "was produced by two drums, or ra-"ther hollow logs of wood, from "which they forced some varied "notes, by beating on them with "two sticks. The dancers however "did not appear to be much directed "by these sounds, but by a chorus "of vocal music, in which all the "performers joined. Their song "was melodious, and their corres-"ponding motions were so skilfully "executed, that the whole body of "dancers appeared as one regular "machine. Such a performance "would have been applauded, even "on an European theatre."—Our countrymen in their turn amused them with an exhibition of fire-works, which was followed by the natives with another concert and dance. The band of music, which consisted of eighteen men, seated themselves in the centre of a circle formed by the spectators. Four or five of them had pieces of large bamboo, from six to three feet in length, each played upon by one man, the upper end of which was open, and the under end closed by one of its joints. They produced a variety of notes, by striking the lower end on the ground, and the whole accompanied the instruments with their voice, "which so finely ter-

* Sparman's voyage to the Cape, vol. II. p. 20. † Ibid, p. 25.

" tempered the harsher notes of the " instruments, that the most perfect " judge of the modulation of sweet " sounds could not avoid confessing " the vast power and pleasing effect " of this simple harmony."

" The concert having continued " about a quarter of an hour, twen- " ty women entered the circle. Most " of them had on their heads gar- " lands of the crimson flowers of " the China rose, or others; and " many of them had ornamented their " persons with leaves of trees, cut " with a great deal of nicety about " the edges. They made a circle " round the chorus, turning their fa- " ces towards it, and began by sing- " ing a soft air, to which responses " were made by the chorus in the " same tone, and these were repeated " alternately. All this while the " women accompanied their song " with several very graceful motions " of their hands towards their faces, " and in other directions at the same " time, making constantly a step for- " ward, and then back again, with " one foot, while the other remained " fixed. They then turned their faces " to the assembly, sung for some time, " and retreated slowly, in a body, to " that part of the circle which was " opposite to the hut where the " principal spectators sat. After " this one of them advanced from " each side, meeting and passing each " other in the front, and continuing " their progress round till they came " to the rest. On which two advan- " ced from each side, two of whom " also passed each other, and return- " ed as the former; but the other " two remained, and to these came " one from each side, by intervals, " till the whole number had again " formed a circle about the chorus.

" Their manner of dancing was " now changed to a quicker mea- " sure, in which they made a kind " of half turn by leaping, and clap- " ping their hands; and snapped " their fingers, repeating some words " in conjunction with the chorus.— " Towards the end, as the quickness " of the music increased, their ges- " tures and attitudes were varied with " wonderful vigour and dexterity*."

From these extracts, opinions may be formed of the rise and progress of dancing in the first ages. The practice is universal among all nations, from the rude measures of the Kamptchatdales, (whose dancing imitates the motions of the bear,) to the more refined and regular performances of the islands in the pacific ocean. From such widely-extended effects, to what cause are we to look for their production? From surveying its extensive dominion, and its early existence, prior to, or at least coeval with, any of the other arts, it ought certainly to be referred to an instinct implanted in man by the Author of his being.

Though dancing is intimately connected with music and song, yet its existence does not entirely depend upon them; for animated and expressive gesture, as well as dancing or leaping, is a natural expression of joy, and exists absolutely and independently without them.

But though dancing exists abstractly and independently from music or song, yet these have been early, if not always, associated with one another. The power of music over the human frame is very remarkable, and its effects have been often noticed. " There is a power " in sound," says Dr Blair, " which " partly from nature, partly from " habit and association, makes such " pathetic impressions on the fancy, " as delight even the most wild bar- " barians." How that power acts upon the human body, whether by vibration made by the concussion of the atmosphere upon some elastic fluid, or by its effects on the nerves, we know not; though it has been conjectured, that all the sensations and

* Cook's voyage in 1772 3, &c. vol. 1.

and passions to which man is subject, depend upon the vibrations excited in the nervous system. This much is certain, that there are certain sounds, which move the passions, such as those of joy, anger, pity, &c. though the cause of that affection may be unknown.—The sounds that were thus found to raise these different passions would be gradually discriminated; and thus the different species of music would take their rise. Some would be adapted to the warlike dances, and others to the dances employed in feasts, rejoicings, and religious ceremonies.

Among uncivilized nations, who have their passions undisguised and strongest, dancing is engaged in with a degree of enthusiasm. Sounds too make upon them strong impressions. Mr Gallini informs us, that "the spirit of dancing prevails almost beyond imagination among both men and women in most parts of Africa. It is even more than instinct, it is a rage, in some countries in that part of the globe. Upon the gold coast especially, the inhabitants are so passionately fond of it, that in the midst of their hardest labour, if they hear a person sing, or any musical instrument played, they cannot refrain from dancing. There are even well attested stories of some negroes flinging themselves at the feet of an European playing on a fiddle, intreating him to desist, unless he had a mind to tire them to death, it being impossible for them to cease dancing while he continued playing." And Peter, the wild boy, who was caught in the woods near Hamelen, in Hanover, and brought to England by George II. was so enraptured with music, that, when he heard any musical instrument played upon, he would dance and caper till he was quite exhausted with fatigue. Though he never could learn to pronounce words distinctly, yet he easily learnt to hum over any tune. *J. S.*

(*To be continued*)

Remarks *made in a* Tour *thro' some of the* Shetland Islands *in* 1804.

(*Continued from p.* 352.)

4th Sept. 1804. We walked across Brassay Island, and paid a visit to Noss Island, to view the far-famed *cradle of Noss*. This island is situated to the South of Brassay, from which it is separated by a narrow channel. The tide was here running with considerable violence and velocity; yet the only ferry-boat we could procure was a miserable skiff, which could not without difficulty convey two passengers at a time. The two boatmen afforded us an instance of the stupid apathy to which a state of oppressive degradation has reduced many of the natives.—We observed that one of the boatmen was not tugging his oar half so busily as the other, and consequently that the boat was wheeling to the one side; upon remonstrating with the sluggish ferryman, however,—he, instead of quickening his motions, made a full pause, and hung on his oar, gaping with surprize: the other fellow, meanwhile, continued tugging away as hard as ever, nor did he observe what he was doing till the boat fairly wheeled about, and had almost completed a circle; and all this in the midst of a boiling current.

The island of Noss is wholly the property of Mr Mowat of Garth. It forms one large farm. Mr Copland, the tenant, kindly offered to accompany us to Noss Head, where we might have a near view of the

holes,

holm, to which access is had by the celebrated *cradle*. This holm is situated on the south side of Noss, and is immediately exposed to the ocean. Although its sides are every where perfectly precipitous, its surface forms a pretty extensive flat, which is thickly covered with grass. Mr Pennant has, in his "Introduction "to the Arctic Zoology," given a representation of this holm; but it is by no means an accurate one*. In the description, too, several things are mistaken or exaggerated. The height of the precipitous rock is great, probably from 160 to 200 feet: but certainly Mr Pennant more than doubles it, when he states it as 480 feet. The chasm over which the cradle is run, is indeed "of matchless horror;" the swelling billows of the ocean frequently sweeping round the holm on both sides, and meeting each other with the most tumultuous collision. The width of the chasm is more than an hundred feet. Mr Pennant is mistaken in thinking that the cradle serves only to enable the natives to get at the eggs or young of the gulls; had this been all the object, that machine (considered as a very expensive one in Shetland) would never have been erected. The fact is, that they annually transport thither, in June, by means of the cradle, a certain number of sheep, which they take out in November in excellent condition. This kind of cradle has here been employed beyond the memory of man. It is accurately cribed in the Appendix to Mr Martin's "Description of the "Islands," &c. 8vo. Lond. 1703. It is mounted and dismounted twice a year, in order to save the rope or cable from the action of the weather. As it was lately described in this magazine (see Number for February last,) and as I had no opportunity of seeing it put to use, I shall not enlarge on it.

We now ascended the peak of Noss, a lofty eminence in the neighbourhood of the holm. Upon charts this peak is named *Hangcliff*, a name unknown to the natives, and which was, it is believed, first imposed by Sir Joseph Banks, when on his voyage to Iceland. It is perhaps more than twice the height of Noss holm, and yet from the sea to the summit, the rock is perfectly mural. At some points, however, even the timid may advance without difficulty so as to see the white foam of the waves below,—which here seemed diminutive and noiseless, but which we knew to be far otherwise. The corvorants or *scarfs*, which sat on the ledges of the rock near the sea, appeared to us no larger than blackbirds. The many successive sandstone strata are here most excellently seen.

Noss island is chiefly pasture, and in general good pasture. Here we were presented with the best milk and butter we had seen in Shetland. Mr Copland complained that a prejudice existed against Shetland butter, which prevented him from exporting to Leith and other ports of the south. This prejudice arises from *table*-butter being confounded with *grease*-butter, which however are two entirely distinct articles of Shetland produce. The prejudice is entirely unfounded. The *table*-butter of Noss island would stand a comparison with any butter made in the Lothians. The milch cows, however, are here rather of a diminutive size, and yield but a small quantity of milk. Even in July and August, when the pasture is best, they yield only about 2 or 2½ pints a day; while a good milch cow in the

* Mr Pennant has gone so far wrong as to mention Orkney as the site of the Noss holm, instead of Shetland.

the southern counties of Scotland will yield from 12 to 14 pints a-day. The tenant of Noss pays L. 50 of rent for the whole island, and is allowed to exert himself in the fishing of tusk and ling for his own behoof. This is a great improvement; tenants throughout Shetland being generally taken bound to deliver their fish to the landlord at a stipulated rate, and being absolutely prohibited from themselves carrying them to the best market. Even the tenant of Noss, however, has not been able to procure a lease of that endurance that would encourage him to make permanent improvements. Two or three years bound the lease.

5th Sept. 1804.—We this day paid a visit to *Scalloway*, formerly the capital of Shetland, the seat of justice, and the occasional residence of the Earls of Orkney and Zetland. In going thither we resolved, in order to see the country, to pass directly across the hills westward from Lerwick. The hills here are excessively wet and swampy, and to travel but a few miles over them becomes very fatiguing. We had frequently to fetch circuits around stagnant pools or deceitful marshes. We passed a large lake in the hills, where we found soldiers from Fort Charlotte fishing for trout: the kind of trout caught here seems to be the sea-trout (salmo trutta:) they are often found of a large size: they have probably forced their way up the outlet of the lake when swoln during some very rainy season, and have been afterwards unable to make good their regress to the sea. At present, there is no apparent comunication of the lake with the sea.

After wandering for several hours over the most bleak and barren hills, which presented no botanical rarity, but yielded only a few of the coarser plants that are commonly found on moist moors †, we at length caught a distant glance of the castle of Scalloway, at the bottom of a fine valley below us. The castle stands on the brink of an arm of the sea, which being protected from the rage of the ocean by a number of little islands, Burra, Tondra, Oxna, Papa, and several holms, forms a safe natural harbour. The town of Scalloway consists only of a few scattered houses in the neighbourhood of the castle. Only one of these is genteel or in the modern style: this is the house of Mr Scott of Scalloway. Around it, is a neat garden, in which we could observe that there were several small fruit trees, and different shrubs, all of which are rare things in this part of the world. The castle itself is a lofty, square and turreted building, consisting of three arched flats. It was built two centuries ago. The erection of such a building, in so poor a country, must have been attended with the most oppressive exactions of services and contributions. The memory of the founder Earl Patrick Stewart, is, for this reason, still held in detestation by the natives. The whole edifice has been long unroofed, and is now in a state of irremediable decay. The stairs seem to have been quarried out by the inhabitants of Scalloway when in want of stones for building. Indeed, had not the edifice been originally very strong, it could not so long have withstood the vicissitudes of a Shetland climate. Over the main door is an inscription, the first part of which is still perfectly legible, and savours not a little of the egotism and vanity of the founder, viz. "Patricius, Orcadum et Zetlandiæ comes." The lower part of the inscription is nearly obliterated by the action of the weather; but may thus be decyphered:

† Eriophorum angustifolium is very common, and its leaves here formed a good deal of the greenest of the sward; together with Narthecium ossifragum, festuca vivipara, agrostis vulgaris, and some others.

ed: "Cujus fundamen saxum, domus "illa manebit; labilis, e contrà, si a- "rena, perit." During the time of the Commonwealth it was occupied as barracks by a party of Cromwell's soldiers, to whom, it is said, the inhabitants were indebted for several improvements, particularly the culture of cabbages.

There is no kind of inn or public house at Scalloway. We easily, however, procured eggs and milk, but could get no bread of any kind: indeed, throughout Shetland, at this time, bread was only to be seen in the houses of the more wealthy. Potatoes, however, of good quality, were presented as a substitute; and we understood that in the valley of Scalloway, they are generally an excellent and an abundant crop.

From Scalloway we proceeded, up a fine dry valley, to Tingwall. This valley seemed to be the best land, and to be loaded with the richest crops we had seen in Shetland; and they were now ready for cutting. The whole valley has a bottom of rich primitive limestone, of a pale blue colour; none of which, as far as we could learn, has ever been wrought, though peat-fuel is abundant. At one place we observed that a ditch had been dug, which had exposed a bed of good marl: this too, however, was utterly neglected. In the pastures in this pleasant valley, there is a good deal of natural clover, both red and white (trifolium medium and trifolium repens;) but these pastures are infested, to an uncommon degree, with the plant called sneezewort, (achillea ptarmica;) indeed I do not recollect ever to have seen elsewhere such quantities of that plant growing in one place.—Much, it may easily be believed, might be done to increase the fertility and value of the vale of Scalloway. Instead of granting a lease for a certain number of years, one of the principal proprietors chooses rather to stipulate for one half of all that is produced on the ground, without taking any part whatever in the expence or management of seed or labour: A worse plan, either for landlord or tenant, could scarce perhaps be devised. The new church of Tingwall is situated near the head or north end of a lake in this valley, and from some points of view, forms the termination of a very beautiful prospect. The name *Tingwall* (it is believed) signifies, in Norwegian, *the place of the court*; and on inquiry, we were told that, on a small green island in the fresh-water lake near the church, there is a mound surrounded by large stones, on which tradition reports that justice was once administered, and which still retains, among the natives, the name of the *lawting*. A series of stepping-stones leading, thro' the most shallow part of the lake, to this green *holm*, remains to this day; and these stones are of such magnitude as to evince more than ordinary exertion and expence in placing them there.

In returning to Lerwick, we travelled along the whole stretch of the only properly-made road in Shetland, the joint work of Mr Scott of Scottshall and Mr Ross of Sound. This road passes over a mossy hill between 200 and 300 feet above the level of the sea. Even on the highest part of the hill we observed that the covering of the peat moss is ten or twelve feet thick, the road being cut thro' it. The peat moss is of a kind that is very moist, and very retentive of water: for wherever it has fallen down upon the road, it has formed a miry sludge.

In ascending this hill we had a prospect of the eastern termination of Tingwall valley. It terminates in an arm of the sea called Lax-forth Voe. The gentleman whom the writer of this account had the pleasure to accompany at this time, happening to understand a good deal of the Norwegian language, in which lan-

language *lax* signifies a salmon, inquired if salmon were ever caught there, and was informed that they were more frequently found there than any where else in Shetland. Lax-forth or *Lax-feort* is therefore a significant name, and means the Bay of Salmon. Here is situated Scotshall, the country seat of Mr Scott Sheriff-substitute of Shetland, the only magistrate in the whole islands.

After the 6th of September, it was too late in the year to attempt to visit other parts of Shetland which we at first had in view. At this season, sudden and violent gales are here to be expected, which render travelling between the islands both disagreeable and dangerous, if not impracticable. In returning to Orkney we met with a pretty hard gale, which produced a most tumultuous sea. We passed at no great distance the lofty and precipitous Fair Isle, on which, it is generally believed, the Duke de Medina Sidonia was wrecked in 1588, in attempting to return to Spain by sailing north round the Orkneys. Many marine birds still kept the sea, tempestuous as it was; particularly razor-bills, shear-waters, and (if we mistake not) Skua-gulls, large brown birds*. We were detained two days in the Orkneys, by a dreadful gale from the S. W. Although, after this, the wind had entirely ceased, we found that we had to encounter what the sailors termed a "heavy head-sea," which had been "set down" by the preceding gale, and which produced a most nauseous tumbling motion of the vessel. A favourable breeze, however, soon sprung up, and carried us forward in what seamen term "great style;" so that, on the evening of the second day after leaving Orkney, we passed the May *light*, at the mouth of the Frith of Forth, and got sight of the new *light* on Inch Keith, which had been recently finished, and was at this time exceedingly brilliant.

A few general remarks on Shetland, and especially on the condition of the people, shall be given in next number, and with which we shall conclude.

On the Hybernation *of* Animals.

(*Continued from p.* 360.)

THE *temperature* of sleeping animals, or the precise degree of heat, at which they either become torpid, or recover from their state of inactivity, has been very little attended to. The application of artificial cold to such animals, and marking the precise temperature at which they would become torpid, and the heat at which they recover, would aid our conjectures on this subject; especially, if these experiments were

* The Skua (Larus cataractes) is doubtless a distinct species. Its bill is considerably hooked at the point. The upper mandible is partly covered with a cere in the manner of the eagle. The plumage is almost wholly brown. It has very strong hooked talons like the eagle. It is a very bold bird. It grows to a large size, being inferior only to the Larus marinus, or great black-backed gull. Its principal breeding-place is the island of Foulah; but it breeds also in the Fair isle, and in one or two other places. The Shetlanders call it the *Bonxie*.—A specimen is preserved in the museum of Peter Walker, Esq; at Coats, Edinburgh, shot in Foulah by Mr Jameson, now Professor of Natural History in the University of Edinburgh.

were made on animals placed nearly in the same circumstances as they would have been in previous to winter, if in a state of freedom. From the experiments of the illustrious Jenner it appears, that in winter the temperature of air being 44 Farenheit, the heat of a torpid Hedge-hog in the pelvis was 45°, and at the diaphragm 48½. When the temperature of the atmosphere was at 26°, the heat of the Hedge-hog in the cavity of the abdomen was reduced so low as 30°. The same animal being again exposed to the cold atmosphere of 26° for two days, the heat of the rectum was found to be 95°, the wound in the abdomen being so much diminished in size as not to admit the thermometer. It was lively and active, and the bed in which it lay felt warm *. As this animal allowed its heat to descend to 30° when in its natural state of torpidity and when there was no necessity for action, the increased temperature cannot be attributed to the cold, but to the wound, which called forth the powers of the animal to repair an injury; which reparation could not be effected at a temperature below the standard heat of the animal. This circumstance shews us with what attention and accuracy experiments of this kind ought to be conducted. Mr Cornish found the temperature of a Bat, in a cold day in December, to be 30°. Pallas found the usual heat of the Zisel (Arctomy's Citellus,) during summer, to be 103°, but during winter, and when torpid, the mercury rose only to 80° and 84°. The temperature of these torpid animals is not so low as we should have expected; upon considering their inactive state, the want of respiration, and the constant intensity of cold to which they are exposed. In warm-blooded animals, a greater degree of heat is necessary for the continuation of the vital principle, than in those animals whose blood usually is of the same temperature with the medium in which they live. On this account the warm-blooded animals seldom suffer their temperature to descend lower than 50°. or 40°; before that, the cold seems to act as a sedative, diminishing all the functions of the animal. When the cold becomes greater than this, it acts as a stimulant, and rouses the animal powers to action. Cold-blooded animals, on the other hand, will allow their temperature to sink even under the freezing point, and still retain their principle of vitality. If the cold be pushed far beyond this point, they soon die. They are unable to bear successive alterations of temperature, during their torpid state, and therefore seek for habitations where the temperature will continue nearly the same, and seldom descend to freezing. Without a precaution of this kind, these animals would be greatly incommoded, and frequently raised prematurely into life.

The *digestive faculty* in torpid animals is exceeding feeble, and in general ceases altogether. The situation, and still more the lethargic state of the system, render this process unnecessary. The intestines are often empty and collapsed, and the secretions so small, that a supply of nourishment from the stomach is not wanted. A Frog will digest food when its heat is at 60°, but not when at 35°, or 40°.

Mr Jenner found a Hedge-hog when the heat of the stomach was at 50°, to have no desire for food, or power of digesting it. But when increased by inflammation in the abdomen to 93°, the animal seized a toad which

* Hunter's observations on certain parts of the animal œconomy, p. 220.

which was in the room, and upon being offered some bread and milk it immediately ate it. The heat roused the actions of the animal economy, and the parts being unable to carry on these actions without being supplied with nourishment, the stomach was stimulated to digest and afford them that supply.

Mr John Hunter * conveyed pieces of worms and meat down the throats of Lizzards when they were going to their winter quarters, and keeping them afterwards in a cool place, on opening them at different periods he always found the substances he had introduced, entire, and without any alteration; sometimes they were in the stomach, at other times they had passed into the intestines, and some of the Lizzards that were allowed to live, voided them toward the spring, entire and with very little alteration in their structure.

Though the process of digestion is thus stopped, yet a considerable loss of weight takes place from the time these animals enter their torpid state to their recovery. Dr Monro found a Hedge-hog, which he kept from November (1764) to March (1765) to lose a considerable part of its weight. On the 25th of December it weighed 13 oz. 3 drs. On the 6th of February 11 oz. 7 drs. and on the 8th of March 11. oz. 3 drs. The Doctor observed a small quantity of fœculent matter and urine among the hay, although it neither ate nor drank during that period †. In this experiment there was a daily loss of 13 grs. As in all torpid animals an accumulation of fat takes place before the torpid season, and a diminution of it towards the spring, we must infer from this, that the waste is in the fat, and that this consumption is provided for, previous to winter.

The *Irritability*, or susceptibility of being excited to action is extremely feeble, and in many cases is almost totally suspended. These animals being in an inactive state, and enjoying sleep, it is not to be expected, that their bodies should be easily acted upon by those stimuli, that produced their effects readily when these animals were in an active state. Parts of their bodies may be cut off, without the animal shewing any signs of feeling; and when their vital parts are exposed, little action is excited. When the Hamster is dissected in this torpid state, the intestines discover not the smallest sign of irritability, upon the application of alkohol, or sulphuric acid. During the operation the animal sometimes opens its mouth, as if it wanted to respire, but the lethargy is too powerful to admit of its reviviscence. Having thus stated a few particulars relating to torpid animals, it now remains to point out the cause and uses of this torpid state of many animals.

(To be concluded in our next.)

Situation of Malta.

(From Boisgelin's History of the Knights of Malta.)

THE Island of Malta is situate between Sicily and Africa, in 33 degrees 40 minutes of east longitude from Ferro (15 degrees 54 minutes east from London,) and 35 degrees 44 minutes 26 seconds of north latitude. It is the most southern island in Europe: distant 60 miles from Cape Passaro; 190 from Cape Spartivento in Calabria, the nearest point on the Continent of Europe; two hundred from Calipia, the near-

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* Hunter's Observations, &c. p. 155.

† Smellie's Philosophy of Nat. Hist. vol. 2.

est part of the continent of Africa; and two hundred and seventy from Tripoly. It is sixty miles in circumference, twenty long, and twelve broad. It faces, on the east, the island of Candia; on the west, the small islands, or rocks of Pantalæria, Limosa, and Lampedosa; on the north, Sicily; and on the south, the kingdom of Tunis.

There is nothing to be seen to the south, and towards Tripoly, but shelves and rocks, without either creeks or ports; but to the east, there is the port of Marsa Scala, and towards the south-west that of Marsa-Sirocco, capable of containing a great number of vessels: farther on, and likewise between the south and east, are the two gulfs of Antifeya and Musiora; and at the very extremity of the island, towards the west, is an extremely commodious cove, serving as a road for ships: this is named Melecca, and is separated from Goza by a channel about four miles broad. The small islands of Cumin and Cumino, are in the middle of this channel.

The island of Malta contains two principal cities, and twenty-two villages or casals;—a name derived from the Arabian word *rahal* signifying *station*; and which indicates the manner in which these villages have been composed by degrees, through the means of the stations, colonies, and meeting of labourers, who successively built cabins, or houses, in the country, in order to be near their different occupations.

There are several hamlets between these villages, and a great many country houses.

The *old* or *notable* city still preserves the name *Medina* among the inhabitants; this signifies *city*, and it was the only one at that time in the island. It is the seat of the bishoprick: and its most remarkable edifices are, the palace of the grand master, built on the site of a fort taken down in 1455, by command of king Alphonso; and the Cathedral erected on the foundation of a palace, which, according to ancient tradition, was inhabited by Publius, prince or *protos* of the island at the time of St Paul's shipwreck.

The catacombs in the old city have always been celebrated; and, indeed, with the greatest justice. They are very extensive; and contain streets in all directions; which are formed with such a degree of regularity, that the title of Subterraneous City has been given to this place. Many of the different passages have been walled up, lest the curious spectator should lose himself in such a labyrinth. The entrance communicates to a house belonging to M. Pietro Greco, rector of the college; from whence the descent is about eight or nine feet by a staircase, three feet wide, leading to a kind of gallery, extremely narrow, and containing sepulchres of different sizes; some proportionally formed for infants, placed in different recesses on each side. These corridors are extremely irregular, divided into several passages, which branch out in various directions, and form apartments very much in the same style as the first, only more or less large, but all equally full of tombs.

The roof or ceiling of one of these halls appearing to want support, a group of fluted pillars has been erected; but without either strength, taste, or regularity! These catacombs are about twelve or fifteen feet below the surface of the rock in which they are cut.

The stone is soft and porous, consequently subject to be easily penetrated by water; in order therefore to prevent the ill effects of such filtration, small gutters or trenches were made at the bottom of the lateral parts of the galleries; which were covered over in a manner for any

person

person to walk on them, and served as conduits for the different streams of water which met together, and were afterwards lost in places made purposely to receive them. By such means these caverns were kept perfectly dry, and were not dangerous to those who were obliged to take shelter in them; the bodies were likewise easily let down for interment.

The stone from which these catacombs were dug is of so soft a nature that vegetables and shrubs grow in it. The roots of many of the latter, in the upper surface, have pierced through the rock, without splitting it: these appear to grow naturally, even to the height of twelve or fifteen feet; and are two, three (sometimes more) lines in diameter.

It is remarkable that the roots of the shrubs thus growing in the heart of the rock should be as large as if exposed to the open air; for it is natural to suppose that so confined a situation would impede their growth. These catacombs are infinitely superior to those at Naples, which are merely excavations made at different times for procuring stone for building.

The city Valetta is situate 13 degrees 40 minutes to the east of the meridian of Paris. The first stone was laid in 1566, and this spot particularly chosen on account of its elevated situation between the two great ports of the island. The plan was given by La Valette himself, tho' it was thought at the time to be drawn by Capt. Laparelli. It is said that the original idea of the grand-master was only to inclose the convent, with all its dependencies, within the walls; and towards the end of the century there was but too much reason to regret that such a plan had not been carried into execution. The walls of this new city were no sooner traced out, than the inhabitants of the island, of all ages and both sexes, voluntarily employed themselves to complete a town, which in future was not only to serve them as a place of defence, but to increase their commerce, and secure their possessions.

By a decree of council, this new city was called *La Valetta*; but it being customary at that time in Sicily to join a suitable epithet to the name of each town, the grand master expressed his wishes that a truly Christian one, worthy the modesty of an order which prided itself alone in the cross of our Saviour, should be chosen; it was therefore called *Humillissima*.

La Valette dying in 1568, his successor, P. de Monté, completed the different works commenced during the glorious reign of the great defender of Malta and the Christian faith. The whole being entirely finished; on the 18th of May 1571, the entire body of the order quitted the burgh, where they had resided from their first arrival in Malta, and proceeded in a most solemn manner to their new habitation in the city Valetta.

Much less attention had been paid to the magnificence and convenience of the edifices within the walls than to insure the safety of the city by strong fortifications. The only church at that time was the *chapel of Victory*; built by La Valette in commemoration of the raising the siege, and in honour of the blessed Virgin.

It was intended to have erected a palace for the grand master on the spot where the Italian and Castilian inns now stand; but P. de Monté preferred a house built by Eustache Dumont, in the principal stair, and which has ever since been the residence of his successors.

A piece of ground was given to every different language for the respective inns. The one belonging to the English language, since succeeded

ceeded by the Anglo-Bavarian, was then on the spot, now called *La Polveriera.*

A particular spot was also assigned to each language, to defend in case of Attack: these were as follow,

Provence, the cavalier, . . .	and Bulwark of St John.
Auvergne, ...	. Bulwark of St Michael.
France, the cavalier, . .	. Bulwark of St James
Italy, ...	Bulwark of St Paul and St Peter
Arragon, ...	. Bulwark of St Andrew.
England, ...	the Platform of St Lazarus.
Germany, ...	. Bulwark of St Sebastian.
Castille, ...	. Bulwark of St Barbara.

There are three gates to this city, viz. *La Reale* (Royal,) the *Marine*, and the gate towards Marsa Musceit. The principal street reaches from the Royal Gate to the Castle of St Elmo, and the others are built in a straight line parallel to the former; the whole, paved with flat square stones. The pavement was however extremely bad, and many of the houses very inconvenient from having steps in the front: but the streets have since been levelled at a great expence, and subterraneous channels dug to carry off all impurities, and at the same time to open a passage for rain water: in short, to make conduits to convey fountain water into all the public and private cisterns throughout the city. The greatest part of the inhabitants being unable to provide for so enormous an expence, the public treasury advanced money to forward these improvements; by which means the city La Valetta is now magnificently paved, and the houses cleared from steps, which were not only inconvenient, but extremely unsightly, and rendered the passage through the streets both embarrassing by day and dangerous by night.

Besides private cisterns to every house, there are likewise public ones; together with a fountain, the source of which is in the southern part of the island but the water conveyed by an aqueduct, built at a considerable expence, by the grand-master Aloff de Vignacourt. This aqueduct, from Diar Chandal, where it commences to the square before the grand-master's palace, is 7478 canes, of eight palms each, in length. It having suffered extremely from the ravages of time, the grand-master Rohan repaired, and indeed partly rebuilt it, from his own private purse. The manner in which the water of this fountain is conveyed has been already described; and if the winter rains are not sufficient to fill the cisterns, it affords a constant supply.

The houses are neat, and built of handsome stone; the roofs forming a flat terrace, plastered with pozzolana, with pipes conducting to the cisterns, by which means every drop of rain water is preserved. Most of the houses have a balcony advancing into the street, where the inhabitants pass a great part of their time.

Character *of the* Maltese.

From the same.

THE Maltese, though continually subject to different nations, have always preserved their original character, which sufficiently proves their descent, and, at the same time, shows that they have mixed very little with

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any of the people who have by turns governed their country.

Their countenances announce an African origin. They are short, strong, plump, with curled hair, flat noses, turned-up lips, and the colour of their skins is the same as that of the inhabitants of the states of Barbary: their language is also so nearly the same, that they perfectly understand each other.

It is, perhaps, as much owing to the situation of Malta, as to the different strangers who have visited and conquered the island, that the Maltese have become very industrious, active, faithful, economical, courageous, and the best sailors in the Mediterranean. But, notwithstanding these good qualities, they still retain some of the defects generally attributed to the Africans; and are mercenary, passionate, jealous, vindictive, and addicted to thieving.

They have likewise sometimes recalled the idea of the *Punica Fides*. They are fantastical and superstitious in the highest degree, but their ignorance does not unfit them for the cultivation of the arts.

The Maltese habit (excepting that of the ecclesiastics, lawyers, and trades-people, who dress in the French stile, and are few compared to the people at large,) consists of a large cotton shirt, and a waistcoat likewise very large, with silver, and sometimes gold buttons; to these are added a *caban* and cloak, reaching below the small of the back, and a long girdle twisted several times round the waist, in which they constantly carry a knife in a sheath: they also wear long and full trousers, with a sort of shoe called *korch*; but they do not often make use of the latter, having almost always both legs and feet entirely naked. This *korch* is merely a leathern sole, with strings to fasten it round the leg. They never wear hats, but blue, red, white or striped caps. People of easy fortune usually carry fans in their hands, and wear blue or green glass spectacles; for such is the excessive heat occasioned by the reverberation of the rays of the sun from the stones, and the white tufa, that, notwithstanding this precaution, there are many blind people; indeed the greatest number have very weak eyes.

The Maltese are remarkably sober; a clove, or garlic, or an onion, anchovies dipped in oil, and salt fish, being their usual diet. On great festivals, they eat pork. Hogs are very common in towns and villages; many of these animals belong to the church and to different convents, and walk about the streets both night and day, where they pick up sufficient nourishment. They are seldom molested, and never stolen.

There are no people in the world more attached to their country than the Maltese; and their constant hope is to end their days in what they dignify with the title of *Fiore del Mondo*, (the Flower of the world.)

The Maltese women are little, and have beautiful hands and feet. They have fine black eyes, though they sometimes seem to squint, owing to their always looking out of the same eye; half of the face being covered with a sort of veil, made of black silk, called faldetta, which they twist about very gracefully, and arrange with much elegance. The women, even of the highest rank, unlike their husbands, constantly preserve their *costume*; and any one who should adopt the French fashion would make herself very ridiculous. They are extremely fond of gold and silver ornaments, and it is not uncommon to see even the peasants loaded with trinkets of those two metals. Their dress consists of a short shift, called *kmis*; of a linen or cotton under-petticoat, termed *Ideil*; of a coloured upper one, which is generally blue, open on one side, called *gkesuira*; and of a corset with sleeves, termed *si-*

dria. The back part of their neck-kerchief is fastened up to the head; and their hair, which is smooth, well-powdered and pomatomed, is dressed in front in the form of a sugar loaf, much in the style of the *toupées à la Grèque*, so long worn by the men. They ornament their necks with gold and silver chains; sometimes, indeed, with necklaces of precious stones: their arms are loaded with bracelets, and their ear-rings are in general more expensive than elegant. Their shoe-buckles are extremely large, and always either of solid gold or silver.

The Maltese baronesses live very retired, and in the most exemplary manner. The morals of the women in the country retain all their original purity; and if libertinism is to be remarked any where, it is among those women who inhabit cities, and who having no other resource but obtaining some office for their relations, are sometimes obliged to dispose of their favours in order to procure it.

NOTE *respecting a Translation of* BEAUSOBRE'S "*Histoire de la Reformation.*"

To the Editor.

SIR,

BEAUSOBRE *the elder*, the author of this history, was an eminent French Protestant minister at Berlin. Along with L'Enfant, he published an excellent translation of the New Testament into French, with an Introduction and Notes. He wrote also a History of Manicheism, in 2 vols. 4to. And after his death, a volume of Historical, Critical, and Philological Observations on the New Testament, was published. Along with this posthumous volume, a Life of the Author was given, in which there is an account of his travelling into various places, to collect materials for the History of the Reformation, and of his corresponding by letters with many persons of eminence and reputation for the same purpose. The History was first published at Berlin, in 1685. Though it is, perhaps, the most authentic and impartial history of that most interesting period, the work has hitherto been little known in this country. It has, indeed, always been considered as a scarce book. The few who had access to it, however, were delighted, and often regretted, that historical treasures of such value should be locked up from the great body of English readers. A translation was at length undertaken, a few years ago, by a Mr Macauley, and the first volume published at London in 1801. Altho' this translation (as far as published) appears to be executed with considerable ability, and with great fidelity, it is painful to learn, that the excellence of Beausobre as an historian has not been sufficiently known in this country, to give such currency of sale to this first volume as to induce Mr Macauley immediately to proceed with the publication of the rest of the work. It is to be hoped, however, that he will not relinquish the undertaking *.

The original forms four 8vo. volumes;

* It is to be remarked with regret, that the translations into English of some of the best foreign works that have appeared in modern times, have been abandoned and left incomplete for want of encouragement.—1. The celebrated THUANAS's *History of his own Times*, was begun to be translated from the original Latin in the 17th century; but only one volume was published. The translation ought still

lumes; but, according to Mr Macauley's arrangement, the translation will be comprized in *three* volumes 8vo. Surely the bookseller will not, when informed of the excellence and importance of the work, hesitate to risk the expence of publishing the remaining two volumes. Besides, it should be considered, that the very circumstance of the translation being in an unfinished state, must naturally tend to deter many persons who may have heard of the value of the work, from immediately becoming purchasers; while many more persons must be deterred from purchasing a detached volume of a history with the merits of which they have had no opportunity of becoming acquainted. It is much to be wished, therefore, that the translation should be speedily finished. It is surely to be hoped with confidence, that there will still be found taste enough remaining in Britain, for an authentic record of the progress of the Reformation at the most interesting crisis, to reward the translator and publishers of Beausobre. The work should be encouraged, especially, by protestant ministers of all denominations.

Kilmarnock, } *J. R.*
May 1805. }

Scottish Review.

Report of the Committee of the *Highland Society of Scotland* appointed to inquire into the Nature and Authenticity of the *Poems of Ossian*. Drawn up by *Henry Mackenzie*, Esq large 8vo. 12s.

NO literary question of the present age has excited a higher degree of interest than that which is the subject of the present inquiry. The beauty of these poems; their unexpected appearance from a quarter till then considered as altogether illiterate; the zealous patronage which they received from some of the most distinguished characters of that age, all conspired to render them, in an uncommon degree, the object of general attention. To the philosopher also, who had made it his object to investigate the progress of society and manners, these poems presented a very singular and interesting spectacle. The high sentiments of honour and humanity with which they abound, formed a striking contrast with the treachery and ferocity which are almost universally attendant on savage warfare. Equally surprising were the respect and delicacy with which the female sex appeared to be treated, when compared with the enslaved and degraded state to which, among such nations, they are frequently reduced. In every point of view, therefore, it became of the utmost importance to ascertain whether, and how

still to be completed; for it is a work, surely, that deserves a place among our histories much better than many others which have of late years been translated from various languages. 2. *The History of the Edict of Nantz* by Benoit, a work of very considerable merit, in 5 vols. 8vo. would be at present a seasonable and useful addition to the histories of France. Two volumes were indeed translated and published about an hundred years ago, soon after the work appeared in the original French; but the translation was never completed. 3. Of the *ten* volumes of Saurin's *Historical, Critical, Moral and Theological Discourses on the Bible*, *two* only have hitherto been translated from the original French; while we have, of late years, been overwhelmed with many trifling, and frequently immoral, works, translated from that language.

how far, these poems were really the offspring of that remote and rude period to which they were ascribed.

One disadvantage we labour under, in forming a judgement upon this subject. Being of lowland origin, we have had no opportunity of acquiring the language in which the originals are said to have been written. We may console ourselves, however, by reflecting that we are thus free from the prejudices with which the possession of this language is frequently accompanied; and as it is not by a Gaelic public that the question must be finally decided, our readers may be more able to go along with our speculations, from our having no means of judging but such as they are able to understand as well as ourselves.

These poems seem, at their first appearance, to have gained almost universal credit in this country. Blair, Kames, Home, Ferguson, zealously espoused their cause, and several of these gentlemen expressed publicly an opinion in their favour. In England indeed the case was very different; after the first surprise was over, a general incredulity seems there to have prevailed. But Mr Hume was perhaps the first Scotsman who embraced this side of the question. In conformity with his usual habits of forming sceptical conclusions *a priori*, he writes in a letter to Gibbon, "It is indeed strange, that any man of sense could have imagined it possible, that above twenty thousand verses, along with numberless historical facts, could have been preserved, by oral tradition, during fifty generations, by the rudest perhaps of all the civilized nations, the most necessitous, the most turbulent, and the most unsettled. *Where a supposition is so contrary to common sense, any positive evidence of it ought never to be regarded.*"

This opinion, however, he does not seem to have openly avowed at the time; and, in a letter to Dr Blair, he points out the only real and effectual mode of bringing their authenticity to the test. He says,

You may easily learn the names of all ministers of that country who understand the language of it. You may write to them, expressing the doubts that have arisen, and desiring them to send for such of the bards as remain, and make them rehearse their ancient poems. Let the clergymen then have the translation in their hands, and let them write back to you, and inform you that they heard such a one (naming him,) living in such a place, rehearse the original of such a passage, from such a page to such a page of the English translation, which appeared exact and faithful. If you give to the public a sufficient number of such testimonies, you may prevail: But I venture to foretel to you, that nothing less will serve the purpose; nothing less will so much as command the attention of the public.

Becket tells me that he is to give us a new edition of your Dissertation, accompanied with some remarks on *Temora*. Here is a favourable opportunity for you to execute this purpose. You have a just and laudable zeal for the credit of these poems. They are, if genuine, one of the greatest curiosities, in all respects, that ever was discovered in the commonwealth of letters; and the child is, in a manner, become yours by adoption, as Macpherson has totally abandoned all care of it. These motives call upon you to exert yourself, and I think it were suitable to your candour, and most satisfactory also to the reader, to publish all the answers to all the letters you write, even though some of these letters should make somewhat against your own opinion in this affair. We shall always be the more assured that no arguments are strained beyond their proper force, and no contrary arguments suppressed, where such an entire communication is made to us. P. 7.

This highly reasonable proposal was approved of by Dr Blair, and letters were accordingly written to a considerable number of clergy and gentlemen in the Highlands, from whom answers were received. But

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whether from not thinking these so satisfactory as he could have wished, or from some other cause, certain it is, that Dr Blair, instead of publishing (according to Mr Hume's advice) all the letters he had received, published none whatever; but continued himself with adding to the next edition of his dissertation, a general summary of the information contained in them. This was of course as favourable as possible, and seems to have given very little satisfaction. It was suspected, that had the letters contained decisive evidence on this subject, they would not have been suppressed; and the very strong *amor patriæ*, which prevails in the northern districts, was supposed capable of biassing the judgement of their inhabitants, and of drawing from them, without sufficient foundation, vague and general testimonies in favour of the publication in question.

Meanwhile a great change was taking place in the Highlands, in consequence of an improved system of agriculture, and of the establishment of arts and manufactures. These, requiring constant and regular industry, deprived the natives of that leisure which they were formerly accustomed to employ in the recitation of their ancient poems. The great families, attracted by the splendour and luxury of the metropolis, ceased to reside constantly on their estates; and the practice of maintaining hereditary bards, for their amusement, was gradually discontinued. Sceptics multiplied; Mr Laing, a most able and indefatigable opponent, not only collected all the proofs on the other side, but brought forward new evidence, which had not been before suspected. There was an evident risk that, even supposing the authenticity real, all proofs of it would perish in the course of a few years.

Fortunately, at this period, a society, composed of numerous and respectable members, being formed with the view of promoting improvements in that country, determined to exert themselves, in order to rescue from oblivion the monuments of its ancient genius. For this purpose, a committee was appointed, at the head of which was placed a gentleman eminently qualified for conducting the enquiry, and, from patriotic motives, as well as congeniality of genius, deeply interested in its issue. This committee seems accordingly to have done every thing possible, and if complete satisfaction has not been obtained, there is no ground to impute it to any deficiency on its part.

The Report states, that the Committee, without having seen the correspondence between Mr Hume, and Dr Blair, had followed nearly the same plan which had been suggested by the former of these gentlemen. The fact is, however, that they have made a most essential improvement, in requesting their correspondents to write down the passages which they heard recited. The measures also, which they have taken to trace out the persons who attended and assisted Mr Macpherson in forming his collection, have tended to throw great light upon this question.

In order to give our readers some idea of the great mass of evidence which has in these different ways been procured, we shall briefly consider it under the four heads of *Testimonies, Published Poems, Manuscripts, and Recitations.*

Before entering upon these, it may be proper to premise, that all parties seem agreed as to the existence of poems of some kind or other, relating to the exploits of Fingal and his heroes, which are familiarly sung in the Highlands of Scotland. Even Mr Hume says, "Nobody questions that there are traditional poems in that part of the country where the the names of Ossian, and Fingal, and Oscar, and Gaul, are mentioned in

every

every stanza. The only doubt is, whether these poems have any farther resemblance to the poems published by Macpherson." How long this has been the case, appears plainly from the following passage in the forms of prayer, &c. translated into Gaelic in 1567 by Bishop Carswell:

"Great is the blindness and sinful darkness, and ignorance and evil design of such as teach, and write, and cultivate the Gaelic language, that, with the view of obtaining for themselves the vain rewards of this world, they are more desirous, and more accustomed to compose vain, tempting, lying worldly histories, concerning the *Tuatha de danaan*, and concerning warriors and champions, and Fingal the son of Cumhall, with his heroes, and concerning many others which I will not at present enumerate or mention, in order to maintain or reprove, than to write and teach, and maintain the faithful words of God, and of the perfect way of truth." P. 17.

A report, indeed, was early circulated, that these poems were all of Irish origin, to which Mr Laing, ever intent on the mortification of national vanity, has given his strenuous support. This, however, by no means agrees with the tradition of the Highlands, which uniformly ascribes Fingal to that country, and has called a variety of places after his name, and that of his heroes. In fact, the Fions being a migratory tribe, appear to have divided their time partly equally between Scotland and Ireland, which might give both countries an opportunity of claiming them as their own.

Having dispatched these preliminaries, we come now to consider the *testimonies* which have been received respecting the authenticity of these poems. Under this head comes all the evidence collected by Dr Blair, as no manuscripts of any kind appear to have been ever transmitted to him. With regard to the nature of these testimonies, it cannot be better described than in the following account given by the Committee of similar letters which they had received.

That the persons themselves had never doubted of the existence of such poems as Mr Macpherson had translated: that they had heard many of them repeated in their youth: that listening to them was the favourite amusement of Highlanders, in the hours of leisure or of idleness; but that, since the Rebellion 1745, the manners of the people had undergone a change so unfavourable to the recitation of these poems, that it was now an amusement scarcely known, and that very few persons remained alive who were able to recite them. That many of the poems they had formerly heard were similar in subject and story, as well as in the names of the heroes mentioned in them, to those translated by Mr Macpherson: that his translation seemed, to such as had read it, a very able one; but that it did not by any means come up to the force or energy of the original;—to such as had read it;—for his book was by no means universally possessed or read among Highlanders even accustomed to reading, who conceived that his translation could add but little to their amusement, and not at all to their conviction, in a matter which they never doubted. P. 72.

Upon many of these we suspect little stress can be laid. When one gentleman "stands persuaded that Mr Laing's arguments cannot stagger his belief in the authenticity of Ossian's poems," and another declares "that nothing shall be wanting, *to fight Ossian's cause* that lies in his power," we are apt to suspect a determination to believe which would rest satisfied with very slender evidence. But when respectable men specify particular pieces which they have heard recited, there seems no reasonable ground for doubt as to the actual existence of such pieces, and as to their at least bearing some resemblance to those published by Macpherson. Such attestations are given by three or four of Dr Blair's correspondents to the following: "Ossian's courtship of Everallin;" "The Description of

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Cuchullin's chariot ;" " The single combat between Fingal and Swaran ;" " Darthula ;" with several others. No copies however being transmitted, it was impossible to say how far these agreed with the published translations.

The next class of testimonies, which are highly important, are those given to the Highland Society by the persons who accompanied Mr Macpherson in his excursion through the Highlands. First come the declarations of Ewan and Angus Macphersons, residenters in or near the Isle of Sky. These testify, that Mr M. travelled through that country ; that he spent a great deal of time in taking down Gaelic poetry, from the recitation of such as were able to repeat it ; but that he himself seemed to possess only a moderate degree of skill in the language. They give also some account, though not very satisfactory, of his having procured from the family of Clanronald, manuscripts which they believed, besides other things, to contain some of the poems of Ossian. Capt. Morrison, an intimate friend of Macpherson, also declares that he saw in his hands, manuscripts which bore every appearance of antiquity ; that Macpherson did not appear to understand the Gaelic language thoroughly, and frequently had recourse to him for the explanation of difficult passages. All parties agree that Mr M. was wholly incapable of composing such poetry as Ossian's, and Morrison declares he might as soon create the Isle of Sky, or compose the prophecies of Isaiah. But much weight, we are afraid, will not be allowed to these Highland criticisms.

The most respectable testimony, however, appears to be that of Mr Gallie, minister of Kincardine, Rossshire, with whom Mr M. spent some time after having collected his manuscripts, and while employed in translating them. This gentleman says, I enquired the success of his journey, and he produced several volumes, small octavo, or rather large duo-decimo, in the Gaelic language and characters, being the poems of Ossian and other ancient bards.

I remember perfectly, that many of those volumes were, at the close, said to have been collected by Paul Macmhuirich Bard Clanraonuil, and about the beginning of the 14th century. Mr Macpherson and I were of opinion, that though the bard collected them, yet that they must have been writ by an ecclesiastic, for the characters and spelling were most beautiful and correct. Every poem had its first letter of its first word most elegantly flourished and gilded ; some red, some yellow, some blue, and some green : the material writ on seemed to be a limber, yet course and dark vellum : the volumes were bound in strong parchment : Mr Macpherson had them from Clanronald.

At that time I could read the Gaelic characters, though with difficulty, and did often amuse myself with reading here and there in those poems, while Mr Macpherson was employed on his translation. At times we differed as to the meaning of certain words in the original. P. 31.

The next source of evidence is the Gaelic poems which have been given to the world by other persons besides Macpherson. The first is a collection of great merit, made in Ireland, by a lady of the name of Miss Brooke. This publication seems, at first sight, to favour the opinion which ascribes Fingal and his heroes to that country. The Committee however observe, that these, as well as all the poems collected in Ireland, are more corrupted, and have more passages that are evidently modern, than those procured from the Highlands. Miss Brooke herself admits that they are of a date posterior to the age in which Ossian flourished.

An account is then given of several publications of less importance, which were made in this country ; but as our limits do not permit us to enter into any discussion of these, we must

must refer our readers to the Report itself. One, however, cannot be passed over; that made by Dr Smith of Campbelton. Of these a translation was first given in 1780, and, on the encouragement of the Highland Society, the originals were published in 1787. These being different from those of Macpherson, do not afford any direct evidence in their favour; but they furnish a very strong corroboration, as containing poetry of the very same kind. In them, as the Committee observe, "are to be found not only the same strain of high and impassioned poetry, but also the same delicacy and refinement of sentiment and feeling which form so extraordinary a feature in the poems translated by Mr Macpherson." Dr Smith stands indeed too nearly in the same predicament, to admit of any evidence which he may afford, being considered as unexceptionable. At the same time, there are several circumstances which combine to render his authority superior to that of his predecessor. His originals have followed the translation much more speedily, although the latter had received no public encouragement, which could prompt him to undertake so great a labour as that of composing the former. At the end of his preliminary dissertation too, he has given a list of the persons from whom he received them; which, had they been forged, would have exposed him to the most palpable risk of detection. And his own character, which, so far as we can judge by his letters, is plain, honest, and frank, seems to acquit him from the suspicion of being concerned in so complicated a forgery.

The next source of evidence was that derived from *manuscripts*. And the great object was to find such as belonged to an era indisputably prior to Macpherson's publication. In the course of enquiries made by the Committee and Dr Blair, there had appeared reason to suppose that that gentleman had almost completely swept the Highlands of all the ancient manuscripts which they contained. These he was understood to have left for publication in the hands of his executors. On applying to them, however, the Committee found, no doubt with extreme consternation, that no such manuscripts were in existence; and that the copy of the originals left by Macpherson for publication, was entirely written out, either in his own hand, or in that of his amanuenses. The only exception was a small duodecimo volume, containing indeed some Gaelic poems, but none that could be of any value in the present inquiry. Yet there seems to be no doubt, from the testimony of the persons who attended Macpherson on his journey, that he received several others of much greater magnitude and importance; all which, from some motive or other, he had destroyed or secreted.

After this unlooked-for disappointment, the Committee were presented by Major M'Lauchlan of Kilbride, by Lord Bannatyne, and by the Highland Society of London, with other collections of ancient manuscripts. For a particular account of their contents we must refer to the publication itself; observing in general, that tho' not absolutely without value, they yet contain nothing which can be regarded as decisive of the point in question. In their search for modern manuscripts the Committee have been more successful. Dr Smith having mentioned in the introduction to his volume, that he was indebted for originals to a Mr Duncan Kennedy, then schoolmaster at Craignish in Argyleshire, the Committee found out the last-mentioned person, and purchased from him a large collection of Gaelic poetry, which was then in his possession. This collection seems farther removed from the suspicion of fabrication, than any for-

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mer one which has yet been discovered. It was not brought forward, like those of Smith and Macpherson, in support of any previously published translation. It contains poetry of the same description with theirs, and in many parts of at least equal beauty, although Kennedy possessed no advantages which could have enabled him to produce such poetry himself. The following extract, from an *argument* of his own composition, prefixed to one of his poems, may give some idea of his literary abilities:

The manner by which the death of this famous hero was brought about is very tragical, whose story is related traditionally as follows:—Gaul being the most experienced warrior of all the bands of Fingal, and the only one living of the royal race of Clan Moirne, of whom he held command under the famous flag and special advice of Fingal, and who upon all occasions, and at all solemnities, was honoured and regarded above any man of either clan. Gaul having always occupied the next seat to Fingal, and enjoyed the best and most delicious messes, especially a roast or collop, (called mir-mora) over and above the wont ratio of all the grand bands, created him in his declining years ill-will and aversion by the ambitious sons of Fingal, in particular Carril. This mirmora, or rather mircorra, was a favourite mess of Fingal and Gaul, which was but a choice colop chopped and mixed with marrow and herb seeds: this mirmora, and every other reward conferred upon Gaul, was claimed by Carril, finding himself the bravest and most accomplished champion among the sons of Fingal, seeing Gaul aged and unfit for distant services, disputed his birth by dint of arms. The invincible Gaul and inveterate Carril, entered the lists, and engaged each other in wrestling, whereby they could not decide the cause upon that day, being both equally overcome, &c.

App. P. 335.

The last source of evidence is that derived from the pieces taken down by gentlemen in the Highlands from the recitation of the old bards. Of all the proofs of the authenticity of the poems, these appear to be the most unexceptionable. Upon a bare hearing of such recitations it is possible to conceive, that men, strongly biassed in their favour, might be deceived by a similarity of names into the idea that they were the same they had seen translated. But when men of respectable characters have taken down these recitations, and transmitted copies of them to the Committee, the supposition that such copies are forged, cannot be for a moment admitted. Of the nature of these communications, we extract the following account:

The poems and fragments of poems which the Committee has been able to procure, contain, often the substance, and sometimes almost the literal expression (the *ipsissima verba,*) of passages given by Mr Macpherson, in the poems of which he has published the translations. But the Committee has not been able to obtain any one poem the same in title and tenor with the poems published by him. It is inclined to believe that he was in use to supply chasms, and to give connection, by inserting passages which he did not find, and to add what he conceived to be dignity and delicacy to the original composition, by striking out passages, by softening incidents, by refining the language, in short, by changing what he considered as too simple or too rude for a modern ear, and elevating what in his opinion was below the standard of good poetry. To what degree, however, he exercised these liberties, it is impossible for the Committee to determine. The advantages he possessed, which the Committee began its inquiries too late to enjoy, of collecting from the oral recitation of a number of persons now no more, a very great number of the same poems, on the same subjects, and then collating those different copies or editions, if they may be so called, rejecting what was spurious or corrupted in one copy, and adopting from another something more genuine and excellent in its place, afforded him an opportunity of putting together what might fairly enough be called an original whole, of much more beauty,

beauty, and with much fewer blemishes, than the Committee believes it *now* possible for any person, or combination of persons, to obtain. P. 152.

From these pieces which the Committee have received from their correspondents, and from the collection of Kennedy, Dr Donald Smith (a most able Celtic scholar, to whom the Committee in the course of their enquiries have been greatly indebted) has selected those passages which correspond with the poem of Fingal as given by Macpherson, accompanied by a literal English translation. This is a highly interesting part of the publication, and we cannot help wishing that it had been extended to a still greater length, by the insertion of all those passages which correspond with any part of Macpherson's translation. Those which have been given, are however sufficient to enable us to form a pretty correct idea both of what was the nature of this original ancient poetry, and what the alterations which it has undergone from the hand of the translator.

In forming an estimate on this subject, two circumstances claim our attention; the poetical merit of the original, and the state of manners which it exhibits. With regard to the first, it is indeed impossible to judge thoroughly without a knowledge of the original. Yet through all the disadvantages of a literal version it is easy to discover a high degree both of sublimity and tenderness. It is a much simpler and ruder species of poetry, indeed, than that which has been given to the world under the name of Ossian. It has neither the same high polish, nor the same uniform and laboured elevation. It is such poetry as is commonly produced in an early and rude period of society; such for example as that of Homer. With the same defects it possesses a degree of beauty perhaps little inferior.

We shall begin with examples of sublimity, the highest species of poetical excellence:

Not so loud roar the waves of a streaming sea,
When driven against lofty cliffs
By the force of the north-wind in winter,
As was the noise of the armies in the general conflict.
Like a spring from the face of a mountain,
Blood flows from the wounds of heroes.
Like the sighing of the wind thro' the clefts of Benana
Was the groan of the people expiring in the contest.
Fingal of the sharp-pointed spears of blood,
Rushed on in his sounding terror,
Like the appalling spirit of the lofty mountains:
Louder, as he descended from his hill,
Than the wood of Morvern sounding under the wind of Trenmor.
When the dreadful storm of ocean
Is roaring against its rocks.
When he mixed in the throng of heroes,
Bloody was his progress, and determined his valour.
Whilst many a body fell outstretched
Under the strokes of his wrathful prowess. P. 223.

As the gathered streams of the mountains
Falling on the narrow vale of the desart,
When clouds send forth their lightening,
And the shrieking of ghosts is mingled with the roar of hills;
So, moved on to battle the valorous force of Erin.
[The chief] himself, in advancing, poured valour forth from his breast
As a billow which rolls its strength to the shore. P. 203.

Frequent instances occur of this kind of excellence. The following is one of rarer occurrence; the description of a calm and beautiful scene of nature:

Pleasant is the sound of the black wave that comes from the eastern land;
Sweetly the birds sing from the wood,
Delightful is the springing breeze.
And pleasant is the voice of the fawn on the mountain;
Delightful is the shining of the sun,
And sweet from the west comes the note of the blackbird. P. 259.

To which we may add the following picture of female beauty:

The

The daughter of the King of Lochlin, that yellow flower of beauty,
Has given her love to Fingal from Albion.
Whiter is her bosom than the moss-lily of the mountain,
Or the snow that has newly fallen on the waving branch.
Her soul is generous and mild
As the sun in the height of the skies.
P. 219.

But it is in the frequent recurrence of tender and pathetic passages, that Ossian is peculiarly distinguished from the bards of times so rude and warlike as those to which he belonged. This is probably owing to the interesting peculiarity of his situation; old and feeble, the last survivor of all the heroes of his race. Hence the remembrance of every former great action gives rise to lamentations over his present weakness and loneliness. Among those we shall select the one which appeared to us the finest:

Many a cruit and many a harp was tuned,
And many a bard sung the tale.
Soft on their music floated the fame
And high-minded pursuits of the accomplished race:
Joyful has been the time to me,
Ossian, the dutiful son of Fingal,
Who have often dealt havoc in the field of heroes,
Though I be now feeble and disconsolate,
My mind, my form, and my fancy are darkened,
As the sun when he is wrapt in the folding of clouds.
O Fingal! thou good and magnanimous King of Fail,
Who prevailed in the fields of warfare!
I no longer behold thee in the chace of the deer,
Nor in the battle of hundreds, hewing down the foe.
The valiant, who were mild, strong, and lovely,
Of great compassion, and extensive fame;
The valiant are gone to the grave that sees not day:
Which has caused mine eye to become as mist.
Blest be thy soul, O Fingal!
Thou heroic leader of swords!
Who excelled in generosity as in success,
And whom no arm of might could controul. P. 231.

In these passages the literal version is perhaps preferable to the adorned translation of Macpherson. But these are select passages; and the ground-work of these poems is in that style of rude simplicity which, when stript of its versification, leaves little poetical merit remaining. Macpherson must therefore have been sensible, that to suit them to the taste of the present age, a refining and embellishing process was indispensibly necessary. His first care seems to have been to clear away the clusters of epithets with which they are frequently encumbered. This larish and indiscriminate use of epithets, even where no poetical advantage could result from their employment, is a fault common to Ossian, with most other bards of antiquity. In some instances Macpherson has retrenched these altogether.

"O! thou who travellest above, round as the *full-orbed bard* shield of the mighty! whence is thy brightness *without frown*, thy light *that is lasting*. P. 72.

O thou that rollest above, round as the shield of my fathers! whence are thy beams, O sun! thy everlasting light?
P. 73.
Frequent darted the streaks of *red* fire
From the *keen* edge of *tempered* arms,
As they struck on *erect* helmets.
Steel, clanging, sounds on steel. Helmets are cleft on high.
P. 211.

At other times he has merely thinned them, retaining such as appeared to him most expressive; as in the description of the horses of Cuchillin.

He has found it necessary also to omit some minute details which did not altogether consist with epic dignity. But the grand office which he had to perform for his original was that of clothing its nakedness,

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of dignifying and embellishing those numerous passages, whose rude simplicity would have been altogether insipid in a literal version. Here indeed he has rather exceeded. He has both crowded his pages too much with ornament, and has frequently run into extravagance and bombast. The following passages will give some idea of his mode of embellishment:

We reared the sun-beam to its staff,
The standard of Fingal, of furious sweep
Full-studded with stones in gold;
With us it was held in high respect.
We turned out the standard of young
Fergus my brother,
To bear the fierce affray,
And the standard of each leading chief
Who was in the host at the time.

We reared the sun-beam of battle; the standard of the king! Each hero exulted with joy, as, waving, it flew on the wind. It was studded with gold above, as the blue wide shell of the nightly sky. Each hero had his standard too; and each his gloomy men!
P. 249.

Then arrived a messenger
From Lochlin's king of mighty hosts,
Demanding that tribute should be delivered to him,
Or that Erin should be altogether abandoned:
"Leave thy spouse and dog at his disposal,
Or give him the close conflict of arms."
An answer was sent
To Lochlin's king of mighty hosts,
That neither tribute nor submission would be granted,
But that the ground should receive the severed heads of his people."
"No man whom the sun beholds,
Shall ever receive my spouse;
Nor shall I consent to the delivering of Bran
While the breath is in my bosom."

Tall Morla came—He spoke to Erin's blue-eyed chief, among the lesser heroes. "Take Swaran's peace," the warrior spoke, "the peace he gives to kings, when nations bow to his sword. Leave Erin's streamy plains to us, and give thy spouse and dog. Thy spouse high bosom'd, heaving fair! Thy dog that overtakes the wind! Give these to prove the weakness of thine arm; live then beneath our power!

"Tell Swaran, tell that heart of pride, Cuthullin never yields. I give him the dark-rolling sea; I give his people graves in Erin. But never shall a stranger have the pleasing sun-beam of my love. No deer shall fly on Lochlin's hills, before swift-footed Luath." P. 217.

After these observations on the literary merit of the Ossianic originals, another question, no less interesting, remains to be discussed:

Are the manners which they represent raised so high as is commonly supposed, above the usual standard of barbarous societies? The most remarkable circumstances in this point of view are, humanity in war, and the respect and delicacy observed in their intercourse with the female sex. On a careful examination, it will appear that, in both these respects, the Fions, or followers of Fingal, display some superiority over their rude neighbours; but, at the same time, that this superiority is by no means so great as is generally supposed by those acquainted only with Macpherson's translation.

In Fingal, we certainly discover high and generous sentiments of honour, of humanity to the vanquished, and of assistance due to the feeble and oppressed. These qualities appear even to have been hereditary in his family, if we may judge from the following interesting address to Oscar:

Oscar! do thou bend the strong in arms;
Protect the weak of hand and the needy.
Be as a spring-tide stream in winter
To resist the foes of the people of Fingal;
But like the soft and gentle breeze of summer
To those who ask thine aid.
So lived the conquering Trenmor;
Such, after him, was Trathal of victorious pursuits;
And Fingal has been the support of the feeble,
To guard him from the violence of the oppressive,
In his cause would I stretch my arm;

In

With chearfulness would I go to receive
him;
And he should find shelter and rest
Under the shade of my brightening
sword. P. 227.

By a female flying to him for protection, we find him thus addressed:

" Thy protection I claim as thou art
Fingal.
Thy countenance to the forlorn is the
sun,
Thy shield is the dwelling place of mercy." P. 229.

But though these acccomplishments seem indisputably to belong to Fingal, we have not been able to discover much trace of them among his followers. Cuchullin declares " Bloody battle is the chief delight of my soul;" and a similar spirit seems to animate the rest of the Fingalian warriors, Ossian himself not excepted. Indeed it is commonly after having described himself hewing and hacking among his enemies, that he breaks out into lamentations of his own weakness and old age; as for instance, after the account of his own savage behaviour after the battle with Cormac:

I cut away the head of Cormac,
And exposed it to view on the hill:
And I retired with the chiefs of Fail
As I held the head by the hair.
Whoever would have told me,
When that day I strove in battle,
That I should be in this condition to-
night,
Could not escape the vengeance of my
arm! P. 241.

It is amusing to observe the manner in which Macpherson attempts to varnish over this barbarous scene, by the introduction of tender epithets, which, on such an occasion, have rather a ludicrous effect:

But, unhappy youth of love! I cut his head away. Five times I shook it by the lock. P. 240.

In the following passage, we find him dwelling with disgusting minuteness on circumstances the most revolting to a mind of delicacy and humanity:

My father was striving the battle
Where it pressed the most;
Nor from him did bodily form retire unmaimed.
In the light of his steps I strove to follow.
But frail is my strength to-night
When I recount the warlike bands:
I have lost the sight of my eyes;
I am old, slow, and forlorn!
The sound of all our strokes was heard
Like the burst of a billow in the day of
the fatal storm.
Many were the arms and legs which were severed,
Many the limbs which keen-edged swords did mangle,
When the valiant of the people, pressed
by strokes,
Sunk on the sward, never more to arise.
P. 225.

The lines marked by Italics, are, as might be supposed, wholly omitted by Macpherson.

With respect to the treatment of women, we certainly find them mentioned often with a warmth and tenderness, hardly to be expected at so rude a period. Yet we should be much mistaken if, from the flowery language of Macpherson, we were led to suppose that their condition, or the ideas of gallantry then prevalent, bore much resemblance to those which have been introduced by the refinement of modern times. It fortunately happens that Ossian, in giving an account of the manner in which he obtained the hand of Evirallin, has furnished us with a complete specimen of Gaelic courtship Having resolved to go in suit of her, he selects twelve of his comrades, and, accompanied by them, arrives at the lake of Lego. Here he is well received by Branno, and regaled with a feast, but without any sight or mention of his mistress. After the entertainment is over, the following dialogue ensues:

Branno enquired, " What is your purpose?
What your special business?"
Caoilt answered on our part,

" The

" The reason for which we came hither,
And the whole of our business to thy house,
Is to seek from thee thy daughter."
" For which of you is she sought?"
" She is sought for Ossian son of Fingal."
" Happy is she who will get thee,
Mighty hero of the camps!
Though twelve daughters were mine,
So high is the fame of Ossian among the followers of Fingal,
That the first daughter should be his."
P. 237.

Immediately after this, he opens the door of the apartment, in which she appears to have been closely immured. Then indeed we are told,

So soon as seen by the generous Evirallin
Was Ossian the son of the chief of heroes,
The blushing maid of whitest hand
Gave her love to the son of fame.
P. 237.

But this, however desirable, is plainly an accidental circumstance, as the engagement had already been made without any knowledge or consent on her part. And, matters being settled in this summary manner, she sets out with him that very day.

On this delicate occasion we find Macpherson wavering between the fidelity due to his original, and the desire of throwing a veil over its rudeness. At first he evidently means to insinuate, that the consent was given by Evirallin, and that Branno was only the interpreter of her wishes. Yet at the end he goes rather farther than Ossian, in making Branno promise Ossian a *choice* of twelve daughters, in case he had been possessed of that number. But, over the whole he has thrown a veil of refined and flowery language, which makes it impossible to suspect any thing unsuitable in the events which it is employed to narrate.

Daughter of the hand of snow! I was not so mournful and blind. I was not so dark and forlorn, when Evirallin loved me! Evirallin with the dark-brown hair, the white-bosomed daughter of Branno! A thousand heroes sought the maid, she refused her love to a thousand. The sons of the sword were despised: for graceful in her eyes was Ossian! I went in suit of the maid to Lego's sable surge. Twelve of my people were there, the sons of streamy Morven! We came to Branno, friend of strangers! Branno of the sounding mail! " From whence," he said, " are the arms of steel? Not easy to win is the maid, who has denied the blue-eyed sons of Erin. But blest be thou, O son of Fingal! Happy is the maid that waits thee! Though twelve daughters of beauty were mine, thine were the choice, thou son of fame.

He opened the hall of the maid, the the dark-haired Everallin. Joy kindled in our manly breasts. P. 235.

Still more repugnant to our ideas of female delicacy is the courtship of Fingal:

The King of Lochlin, on a time, sent a messenger
To Fingal, the youthful King of Albion,
To entreat of him to go without delay
To marry his daughter in the kingdom of Lochlin. P. 219.

The messenger gives a description of the lady, (which we have already extracted,) and adds,

She requests that you, the chief of his heroes,
May go to bring her across the watery ridge;
For she has resolved to remain in her hall,
Until Fingal go to demand her."
P. 221.

From the comparison of these passages we have been rather impressed with a favourable idea of Macpherson's fidelity, at least in essential particulars. He has retained the groundwork of the story, even where it was most adverse to that refinement which he was studious to bestow on his composition. Had he been in the frequent habit of inventing, or even of omitting incidents, he would certainly have done so upon these occasions. And, considering the abundance

dance of poetry which, from the different collections, appears to have existed in the Highlands, and the ample opportunities he enjoyed of collecting it, there seems no improbability in his having found originals for nearly the whole of the poems which he has given to the public.

Our readers will have observed, that, in giving this very copious analysis of this interesting publication, we have had less in view its literary merit, than the light thrown upon the important question to which it relates. It would be improper, however, not to mention, that the inquiries appear to have been conducted with very great judgment, and that the criticisms display that refined taste which might be expected from the gentleman by whom the Report was drawn up. A still higher praise is, that on a subject into which national prejudice is so apt to insinuate itself, the inquiries are carried on with the utmost moderation and candour, and without the least tincture of bitterness against those who have maintained an opposite opinion. Though the chief object of this publication be to state facts, and to exhibit specimens of Gaelic poetry, yet a few short observations are given at the end, on the most formidable objections which have been made to the authenticity of Ossian. Our remarks on these, however, we shall reserve till the appearance of Mr Laing's next publication, when we may be able to see the whole mass of evidence which has been collected by the industry and zeal of that gentleman.

Scottish Literary Intelligence.

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Volume II. of the miscellaneous and posthumous Works of the late Rev. Mr Alex. Pirie, of Newburgh. 5s. sewed.

Literary Intelligence, English *and* Foreign.

MR Roscoe's long-promised life of Pope Leo the Tenth will make its appearance on the First of June, in four large volumes quarto.

The Rev. Philip Smyth, of New College, Oxford, is printing a new and enlarged edition of his Selections from the French Anas. The former edition consisted of two volumes; the new one will be extended to three volumes, and between each Ana will appear a biographical notice of the author.

The East India Company have lately established in Hertfordshire a place of public instruction for such young men who may be destined to be employed in various civil capacities in the service of the Company. The Rev. Mr Henley is appointed president of the College. The education is to be both commercial and classical, and to comprize, among other branches of instruction, the mathematics, geography, modern languages and Oriental literature.

The History of the House of Austria, by the Rev. W. Coxe, is in great forwardness, and may be expected in the course of the summer.

The Messrs. Lysons announce for early publication the first volume of their grand work, *A New General Survey of Great Britain.* This volume will contain Bedfordshire, Berkshire, and Buckinghamshire, and will be illustrated with Maps, Plans, and Views of Architecture; and a Series of picturesque Engravings, by Mr Byrne, will appear at the same time, which may be purchased separately.

Mr Cooke, well known as the friend of the late Samuel Foote, of facetious memory, has written a Life of that celebrated character; to which he has annexed anecdotes of many of Foote's contemporaries, and a Collection of his best *bon mots*, chiefly original.

Mr John Britton announces the first part of a new work, entitled the Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain, displayed in a Series of select Engravings, representing the most beautiful, curious, and interesting ancient edifices of this country; with an historical and descriptive account of each subject. Each part will contain six, seven, or eight engravings, with letter-press descriptions of each subject. Four of the plates will be engraved in the best style, from highly-finished drawings; and the others will be principally illustrative details of the former, and executed in a style to correspond with the respective subjects.

Mr Gregory, of the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, has now in the press a General Treatise of Mechanics, which is intended to be comprised in two volumes, octavo. The first volume will be devoted chiefly to the theory, and will be divided into five books, under the several heads of Statics, Dynamics, Hydrostatics, Hydrodynamics, and Pneumatics. The second volume will be chiefly appropriated to the description of machinery.

Mr Parkinson, of Hoxton, has a work in the press on the Gout, in which he purposes to consider of the modes recommended for the cure of this disease, and to offer some remarks on its nature and origin.

Mr William Lucas is engaged in a Work on Duelling, comprising arguments for and against duelling; and attempting to prove, that it is a barbarous custom, which had its origin in superstition, and is, at present, cherished only by ostentation or revenge, equally unworthy of a great mind, an enlightened age, and a civilized country.

Proposals have just been issued by the Rev. Samuel Burder, of St. Alban's, to publish by subscription, in two volumes, octavo, a work entitled, Oriental Customs, or an Illustration of the Sacred Scriptures, by an explanatory Application of the Customs and Manners of the Eastern Nations. A very large edition of the first volume of this work was published about three years ago; the second is entirely new, and may be subscribed for separately by the purchasers of the former part.

A splendid work, entitled, A Graphic and Descriptive Tour of the University of Oxford, is in considerable forwardness. It will comprehend general picturesque views, correct representations of all the principal public buildings, with their history and present state, and the academic costume. The work will be printed in imperial folio, in numbers; the first of which will appear on the 20th of June.

At

At the first annual meeting of the British and Foreign Bible Society, held on Wednesday, the 1st of May, at the new London Tavern, Cheapside, the Right Hon Lord Teignmouth, president, read from the chair a report of proceedings. It appeared from this report, and the extracts of correspondence which were afterwards read by one of the secretaries, that the Society had made in the course of this, their first year, a very considerable progress: a society upon a similar principle has, under their auspices, been established in the free Imperial City of Nurenberg, and a great degree of zeal has been excited in many other parts of the Continent, both among Protestants and Catholics, for procuring and distributing the Holy Scriptures. It also appeared that in Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, the views of the Society had been cordially embraced, and that, in the two latter, collections had been made which already amount to more than two thousand pounds. The report and revised plan of the Society were unanimously adopted, and, on the motion of the Lord Bishop of Durham, seconded by Mr Wilberforce, the warmest thanks of the meeting were voted to the Right Hon. the President, for His Lordship's faithful, zealous, and persevering, attention to the interests of the Society, during the period of his connection with it. Thanks were also severally voted to the Right Rev. and other Vice-Presidents; to the Treasurers and Secretaries for their gratuitous services; to Granville Sharp, Esq. for a valuable donation of Versions of the Scriptures in various Modern Languages; to the Presbytery and Synod of Glasgow for their respective resolutions to promote collections for the Society; and to the congregations throughout the United Kingdom from which collections have been received. The report is, we understand in the press, and to that we must refer the public for a more particular account of the design and success of this institution.

Major Rainsford has in the press, a work, with plates, relative to the Island of St. Domingo. In consequence of his peculiar acquaintance with the subject, a work of great interest may be expected.

Mr Smith will publish, in a short time, a new map of the united Kingdom, on six large sheets, on which all the principal roads will be carefully described. The same Gentleman will publish a new Map of England and Wales, on a similar plan, with a view to accommodate travellers.

Mr Leslie, author of a work on Heat, is appointed Professor of Mathematics in the University of Edinburgh in the room of Professor Playfair, lately appointed to the Natural Philosophy class.

The Rev. George Walker, well known for his treatise on the Sphere, is elected President of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester, in the room of the late Dr. Percival.

The Rev. James M'Donald is admitted Professor of Natural Philosophy at St. Andrews, in the room of the late Dr. Rotheram.

The Literary club has begun a subscription for erecting a monument in St. Paul's Cathedral, to the memory of Sir Joshua Reynolds, the founder of that Society.

Mr Macdiarmid is about to publish a work entitled, An enquiry into the System of National Defence. It is intended in this work to consider the influence which the present system of National Defence has on the internal prosperity of Great Britain, as well as the improvements which it may be expedient to introduce into that system.

A new edition of the Rev. Hugh Farmer's Dissertations of Christ's Temptation in the Wilderness is in the press.

The Rev. T. Belsham will shortly publish a series of Letters, in Answer to the Rev. J. P. Smith, on certain important Theological Subjects.

It is said that M. Schmidt, a native of Mecklenburgh, has invented a new and very superior diving machine.

The Police of Paris has prohibited the last new novel of Lebrun, entitled Jerome.

It is reported that the works of M. Von Muller, councellor at Berlin, have been prohibited in the Austrian states.

The Emperor of Russia has granted ample emancipation to the Jews, in his dominions. An Ukase lately published grants them the privilege of educating their children in any of the schools and universities of the Empire; or they may establish schools at their own expence.

The

The Society of the Friends of the Sciences at Warsaw, has charged two of its members to undertake a mineralogical tour to the Carpathian mountains. Another member of the same society has already explored the eastern part of these mountains, and is now engaged in a like tour through the mountains of Interior Austria; from which he will proceed to Upper Italy and the Swiss Alps. On his return, he will go on a similar tour to the Caucasian mountains.

Dr Goldfuss, of Erlangen, will set out in the course of the present spring on his travels in Africa, the expences of which will be defrayed by the King of Prussia. He intends remaining a year at the Cape, and in the two following years he means to penetrate as far as possible into the country, both on the eastern and western coast.

An Embassy is about to be sent by the Russian Government to China. Among those who are to accompany Count Golofkin in this mission, are Schubert, the astronomer; General Suchtelen, as historiographer; and Ruttoffsky, as botanist and landscape painter. Great advantages, both in a commercial and scientific point of view, are expected from this embassy.

M. Humboldt, the celebrated traveller, is employed in the following works. 1. A Physical Description of the Equinoctial Regions. 2. A Flora of the same. 3. The Astronomical Observations and Measurements made during his Travels between the Tropics: and, 4. in conjunction with Gay-Lusac, some Treatises on Eudiometry and the Atmosphere. He intends to make a tour in Italy, and another to the most northern point of Norway.

At the commencement of the French revolution, when the literary treasures in libraries of the monasteries and the public archives were wantonly scattered about by the Republican Vandals, Mr Dubrossky, Secretary to the Russian embassy at Paris, collected, and thus saved from destruction, a great number of rare and valuable MSS. This collection has now been purchased by the Emperor Alexander, and forms part of the Imperial Library at Petersburgh.

The most satisfactory accounts have been received concerning the Russian expedition for circumnavigating the globe. They are contained in a letter transmitted by the commander, M. Krusenstern, to M. Schubert, a member of the Academy, and dated August 8. 1804, from Kamtschatka, where the voyagers arrived, without any accident of importance, on the 14th of the preceding month, about five weeks after quitting the coast of Brasil. They touched, on their passage, at the Marquesa islands, on one of which M. Krusenstern found a Frenchman and an Englishman, whom he intends to bring with him to Europe. The latter had completely forgotten his native language, and the Frenchman, who had not spoken his for seven years, with some difficulty gave the Russians to understand, that he had been wrecked, in an American ship, near the coast of the island. Both of them having learned the language of the islanders, and adopted their manners, will, doubtless, furnish many curious particulars relative to those islands, which are but little known. M. Krusenstern was preparing to sail for Japan, to convey thither M. de Rasannoff, who is to reside there in the quality of Ambassador Extraordinary of the Emperor of Russia.

Poetry.

To the Editor.

ANSWER

TO "THE AULD PLOUGHMAN,"

(*March Magazine* 1805.)

"Qui Bavium non odit, amet tua carmina Mævi." VIRG.

WHEN Scotia's gleesome Bards of yore
Poetic regions did explore,
They didna o'er the stoup look *gruff*,
Nor clag their brains wi' dirty *snuff*.
But now in these degenerate days,
The drowsy Bard ne'er tunes his lays,
Until he's got a rousin' dose
Of pungent snuff, or whisky brose,
Or * Cuttie's muckle twa-pint stoup,
Has set him fairly on his doup;

Then

* A hospitable landlord at Cairn-a-Mount.

Then thro' his bizzing, restless, brain,
Does dance a motely, Gipsy train;
He guzzles, rhymes, and rages on,
Taks Cuttie's ale for Helicon,
And squirting forth the barmy tide,
Bespatters a' on ilka side.
Pray what has Anti said or sung?
To whet your bauld upbraidin' tongue,
Or thole the foul-mou'd Billingsgate,
That issues frae your fuddled pate,
And musters up ilk' lown-like name,
To cloud his pure unsullied fame.
He says, (nor does he say amiss,)
"The stews ne'er yield substantial bliss,
And snishen's nae a potent dose,
To foster either verse or prose;
That name but Vandals, Goths, and Huns,
Who are not Phœbus' genuine sons,
Wad e'er prefer tobacco steam
To Helicon's transporting stream."
Can truths like these e'er gi'e offence
To ony man of common sense?
Could ony ane o' Phœbus line,
Cou'd ony thole, of a' the *nine*,
To ha'e the burnie on you * hill
Exploded for a snishen mill?
Or see the tunefu' nymphs, and gay bards,
Rinnin' wi' luggies and wi' gray-beards,
To beg a foul poetic dose,
Distill'd frae Philo's fœtid nose.
But your gruff Philo, tho' ye daut him,
Gars a' Parnassus winder at him;
With dismal, dark, and sable snout,
Whence sooty Lava issued out,
And o'er his beard meand'ring ran,
To prove him a poetic man.
He splutter'd a' baith wide and far,
Up frae the pu'pit to the bar;
Of a' that's virtuous, good, and great,
In cottage, palace, church, or state,
(His words expressly do declare it,)
Cried his vile nostrum a' the merit;
And when the gutter ceas'd to rin,
Down frae his nostrils to his chin,
His snuff-fed muse, dwarf'd to a span,
Expir'd in filth, where she began.
Cou'd ony o' the Muses kiss him?
Or rather cou'd they fail to hiss him?
Even Phœbus' self, tho' starker far,
Smelling the nostrum frae afar,
Wad turn indignant on his heel,
And stap his nose, and rin and squeel;
And swear by a' the † streams o' hell,
He'd gae'm Parnassus to himsel'!
And as for you, my Ploughman blade,
I doubt ye'll sair mistak' your trade,
If e'er ye try to speel the brae,
Where poets lilt the melting lay;
But if ye'll tak' a friend's advice,
I'll gi'e ye't in a verra trice:
When younkers differ on the green,
Ne'er fash your thumb, nor step between,
Or (as my great gran'-mither spake)
Ye'll may be get the redding straik.
Attend your horses, and your plough,
This done, ye just do weel enough;
When Winter bites wi' tempests fliskey,
Cowp aff a gill o' Cuttie's whisky;
And ay remember, auld or young,
To keep a clean weel scrapit tongue.
If at a chance, unlucky time,
Ye're whiskity'd to try a ryhme,
Ye'll mak' a shift 'mong gipsy lasses,
Altho' ye dinna ken Parnassus;
And tho' your poetry be *nil hoc*,
Ye're sure to shine at Cuttie's hillock.

AN AULD PIPER.

Ben-Lomond-Law
April 16. 1804.

* Helicon. † The river Styx,—the oath of the gods.

VERSES

On a young Gentleman who died lately at Montego Bay, Jamaica.

BY cruel fate debarred from more,
The mind recurs to pleasures past,
And fancy haunts the distant shore,
Where lov'd D-l- -ple breathed his last.

If nobleness of heart prevailed
From dissolution man to save:
If youth or beauty aught availed
To gain a respite from the grave,

Sure *he* had lived—by all beloved,
(For love inspiring was his mind)
A blessing to his country proved,
And ornamental to his kind.

But ah! frail mortals cannot tell
The ways unsearchable of God,
Whose sudden stroke, mysterious fell,
And freed his spirit from its load.

On wings of extacy he flew,
Exulting in the power to rise;
For heaven expanded on his view,
And angels hail'd him to the skies.

For ever there his joys endure,
Tho' blind we weep his early doom,
His were the virtues that secure
Perennial bliss beyond the tomb.

S. M.

19th October 1804.

To the Editor.

SIR,

In consequence of the favourable reception the verses written by the young manufacturer in the village of *Carlops* have met with, I send you the following lines which he composed some years ago, under the apprehension of being removed by his father to the neighbourhood of the celebrated cotton mills, on the Clyde, at Lanark.

Lanark. His reluctance to leave the place of his nativity however prevailed, and he still remains in sight of his favourite stream, an inhabitant of its banks.

N.

ELEGY

On leaving the Banks of the Esk.

AND must I, then, my native plains forego!
And must I leave thee, Esk! sweet parent stream!
Torn from thy hermit haunts, my tears shall flow,
No ray of joy shall cheer me with its beam.

Sad recollections point at other hours,
That past unheeded by the youthful mind,
When oft I wandered 'mongst thy leafy bowers,
Light as the roving spirit of the wind.

O! happy hours of innocence and mirth!
To catch the linnet, then my greatest aim;
A stranger to the villanies of earth,
My thoughtless heart knew neither care nor pain.

'Twas here I hop'd to spend life's doubtful day,
Heedless of fortune, and the voice of fame;
My greatest joy to frame the rural lay,
And roaming round, to fan the muses flame.

'Twas here my artless numbers first were sung,
Though weak, they flow'd spontaneous from the heart;
In praise of these green banks my lyre was strung;
And must I now, for ever from them part!

'Twas here my Anna, lovely, blushing maid,
'Twas here thou listen'dst to my lovesick tale,
When soft reclined beneath yon birch's shade *,
Where the sweet primrose scents the dewy vale.

Ah me! how transient all terrestrial joys!
They flit, as doth the meteor through the sky;
Stern fate, soon all our views of bliss destroys,
And leaves us lonely o'er the past to sigh.

Farewell, sweet stream! farewell, ye leafy bowers!
No more among your peaceful haunts I'll sing;
Nor wander wild at twilight's dusky hour,
To mark the beauties of the smiling spring.

But e'er we part, receive this gushing tear,
Fast let it with thy chrystal current flow;
No other scene my drooping heart can cheer;
Each parting step swells big the tide of woe.

But night's dim shadows bid the day retire,
Far, in the west, I see its latest beam;
Now Hesper, twinkling, glows with ruddy fire,
And soon will Cynthia's ray glance on the stream.—

Away my tardy feet! why loiter here?
Vain, to the yielding air my griefs I tell!
Nought hears my plaint but phantom Echo's ear;
Even from her cave, she sighs my last farewell!

J. F.

To the Editor.

THE *NITH.*

Inscribed to Miss A. B.

HOW sweetly winds thy silver stream along,
Delightful Nith! how smooth thy current flows,

Soft

* This, and the first lines in these verses, so exactly coincide with the following ones in *Ramsay*, as evidently to shew the descriptions in both were taken from the same district.

Behind a tree, upon the *plain*,
Pate and his Peggy meet; *Gent. Sheph. Act* II. *Sc.* 4. *Prel.*

——whan the day was done,
I tript my journey, lighted by the moon.
Till, eastward fifty miles, I reached these *plains*,
Where needfu' plenty glads your cheerfu' swains.
Ditto, Act V. *Sc.* 3.

Gae farer up the burn to Habbie's How.
Where a' the sweets o' spring and simmer grow;
Between twa *birks*, out o'er a little lin,
The water fa's, and mak's a singan' din': &c.
Ditto, Act I. *Sc.* 2.

Soft breathes the murmuring gale thy reeds among,
And fair each flowret on thy border blows.

In life's romantic morn, by Fancy led,
Oft in thy winding vale I careless stray'd,
Where yon tall pines their tow'ring branches spread,
Musing I roam'd beneath their sylvan shade.

There brushing oft the dew-bespangled vale,
I hail'd the early lark's inspiring lay,
Or while the balmy sweets of eve exhale,
Ey'd the mild glories of the closing day.

And oft the rustic Muse, with soothing smile,
Her rude unpolished fancies deign'd to sing,
Oft would her touch, the tedious hours beguile,
And tune to harmony the trembling string.

Then every hope that Fancy's aid could raise,
Lent its sweet visions to the passing hour,
Then every joy that youth's gay heart can please,
Breath'd in each gale, and bloom'd in every flower.

Ye happy hours of calm, unruffled rest.
Too soon your visionary bliss is o'er;
Too soon Care's haggard train invades the breast,
And the gay glitt'ring day-dream is no more.

W. D.

To the Editor.

HAVREL WILLIE.

SEE ye yon auld storm-batter'd wa's,
Whare scraichen kaes an' howlets brood in,
Whare a' the glowrin' bogles dwall,
That haunt the bonnie banks o' Clouden,

An' see ye yon clay-biggit ha',
A bowshot wast o' Nannie Kingan's,
The auld yeard dyke, o' bourtrees rife,
Whilk bields frae scaith the hail an' ingans.

Now Willie, wha the hauddin anelt,
Ev'n slander coudna' ca' him idle,
At dredgies far an' near he grean'd,
An wan the broose at ilka brydle.

'Bout Rome's black kirk he'd flyte an' ban,
Auld Babel's brazen whore he ca'd her,
Neist screed ye aff the hunner psalm,
An' synt he'd sing ye Maggie Lauder.

But wats my heart, he gat a fleg
Frae Tibby Heughan o' Foulguitter,
Wha tauntin' jeer'd his proffer'd nieve,
An buckit wi, a spunkie Souter.

Ye'll ablins trou he tint his wits,
Or pin'd awa' like onie spectre,
Na, Na, our Willie took to beuks,
An' gravely studied Architecture.

An' there he learned that tough auld aik,
Wad dourely stan' the warst o' weather,
An that twa bauks are stronger far,
Whan pin'd an' spikeit firm thegither.

Thir truths faund out, wi meikle speed,
His bawsent cowt he soon bedeekit,
Gat on his brawest Sunday graith,
An' far an' near the kintra rakeit.

He faund a hempie auld an' tough,
Ne'er cuif gat haud o' sic anither,
My graunie might hae ca'd her *Aunt*,
An' auld Jean Dibbin * *honour'd Mither*.

But ere the brydal braws were coft,
An' ere the chield was kipplt till her,
She shaw'd a bonnie loan o' nowt,
By and attour a claut o' siller.

Now Willie, tho' a royet loan,
Word gaed amang the hizzies rogueish,
He'll soon be douce as onie whig,
That e'er gae prologue owre a haggis.

For when he's yoket tooth an' nail,
In doure domestic altercation,
Her tongue jows like the auld-kirk bell,
Whilk minds him o' his saul's salvation.

An whan he's row'd amang the claes,
An' wardly cares his slumbers worrie,
They're soon scaur'd wi' the rifts an grains,
O' auld creel-tail'd *Memento Mori*.

Now bring's a wauly waught o' yill,
Into the siller-lippet cappie,
We'll gie the lugs of Care a clout,
An' creish our cheepin' craigs wi' nappie.

An' here's, may ne'er anither loon
Disgrace the annals o' our nation,
Wha maks a god o' warl's gear,
An' sews his saul up in a hoskin.

The auld guidman o' Ballangie †,
May ne'er mishap his glory spulzie,
An' ne'er anither vassal wauld
Wi' barren strum like Havrel Willie.

London, 1805. *T. M. C.*

PRO-

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* A poor body in Dumfries, wha sell'd whistles an' baubee knives.

† Tradition says, that in ancient times, the Kings of Scotland, particularly James V. were known by this name when travelling in disguise.

PROCEEDINGS OF PARLIAMENT.

Catholic Emancipation.

THE highly-important question for relieving the Roman Catholics of Ireland of certain legal disabilities, of a political quality, has again been agitated in Parliament.—In the beginning of March, a deputation from that body arrived in London, with a petition to Parliament, which had been framed at different meetings in Dublin during the winter.—The Deputies were the Earls of Fingal and Wexford (Shrewsbury,) Viscounts Southwell, Trimleston, and Kenmare; Sir Thomas French, Sir Edward Bellew, Sir Francis Gould; and Messrs Shee, Scully, and Ryan, barristers.—On their arrival, the Earl of Fingal inclosed a copy of the petition in a letter to Mr Pitt, and by desire the deputation had an interview with that Minister.—Lord Fingal expressed it to be the general wish of the Irish Catholics, that he (Mr Pitt) should present their petition, and that they relied chiefly on his support for the attainment of their object. Mr Pitt acknowledged his former promise, and stated the reasons which induced him originally to take up the cause of the Catholics, adding, that those reasons still preserved their full force in his mind. He complimented in very high terms the disposition and conduct of the Catholic Body, but he begged to decline presenting their petition, or supporting their claims at present. He assured the delegates that he was quite free from the objections which stood in the way of the complete accomplishment of their wishes, and expressed his regret that an obstacle in a certain high quarter rendered it imprudent to agitate, and impossible to obtain their claims at the present moment.

Disappointed in their expectations of obtaining the support of Administration, the deputies addressed themselves to the leaders of the opposition, when Lord Grenville and Mr Fox undertook the business.

The petition was accordingly presented to both Houses on the 25th of March, and ordered to be laid on their respective tables.—No debate took place, tho' several members expressed their opinions in its disfavour.—

The petition is of great length, and drawn up in moderate and respectful language. The petitioners first declare their steady attachment to the person and family of the King, and the British constitution. They next state that they have taken the oaths prescribed by law, and appeal to the sacrifices they make of temporal benefits, rather than violate their consciences, as a proof of their reverence for the sacred obligation of an oath. They then enumerate the obligations of the oaths they have taken, and declare them to be not inconsistent with the religion they profess. These obligations are, to bear true allegiance to the King, and defend him against all plots, &c. to the utmost of their power, and to maintain him in his dignity, and the succession to his family. They renounce all allegiance to any other person, and also the doctrine that no faith is to be kept with heretics; they abjure the opinion that the Pope has, or ought to have, any authority in this realm; or that he is infallible, or can forgive sins; and solemnly disavow any intention of disturbing the present church establishment, for the purpose of erecting a Catholic establishment in its stead. The petition next recites the preambles of the different Acts of Parliament passed of late years in favour of the Roman Catholics, (which acknowledge and approve the loyal and peaceable demeanor that had recommended them to these marks of attention and encouragement on the part of the legislature,) and expresses a confident hope, that nothing since that period has belied the tenor of that conduct, or forfeited the liberal regard with which their pretensions were then received.——The petition then proceeds to enumerate the incapacities and discouragements under which the Catholics of Ireland still continue to labour; and from which they now pray to be exempted. It principally dwells on the incongruity of allowing Roman Catholics of a certain description to vote at the election of Members of Parliament, yet precluding them from the means of exercising that right in behalf of those whose consequence, character, and conduct, they think justly entitle them to that distinction.—The hard condition to which the Roman Catholic Peers are reduced, by neither being admitted

mitted to sit themselves in Parliament, or to vote for those whom they may judge worthy of a seat in the Imperial Legislature; which disqualifications, together with the exclusion of the Roman Catholic body at large from the magistracy, from places of honour or trust in the army, or the law, and lastly, their practical exclusion from the corporations, &c. must disrobe property of all consequence and consideration, and effectually counteract every motive that can direct the aims of honourable ambition, or stimulate the exertions of useful industry. It finally rests the political expediency of granting the prayer of the petition, on the ground of its removing every subject of discontent and complaint, and that at a crisis when the common enemy can conceive no possible hope of the success of his attempts against Ireland, but from the irritation produced by the ever-recurring recollection of the remaining incapacities, the removal of which must effectually dispose every man in Ireland to unite heart and hand in defence of their common country, against the insidious insinuations and daring attempts of the common foe. On these and similar considerations the petitioners most humbly presume to express their earnest and respectful hope, that Parliament will, in its wisdom and liberality, deem the several statutes now in force against them no longer necessary to be retained, and that his Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, professing the Roman Catholic religion, may be effectually relieved from the operation of those statutes, and that so they may be restored to the full enjoyment of the benefits of the British Constitution, and to every inducement of attachment to that constitution, equally and in common with their fellow-subjects throughout the British Empire. [The petition is signed by eight Peers and 92 other persons.]

We mean nothing disrespectful to the Catholic body (of whose general loyalty there can be no question,) when we repeat an observation that has been made, that from the invariable custom of all Churches, it was to be expected that a declaration of tenets, such as this petition contains, should have been agreed upon in a General Council of the whole Irish Catholic Church, and signed by the Archbishops, Bishops, and other Dignitaries. But to the declaration, in the present instance, there is not the name of a single Clergyman attached, nor are we told upon what authority the petitioners subscribe on behalf of others of the same persuasion. We should very much doubt, if any Roman Catholic in Ireland will consider himself bound by a declaration, not sanctioned by the names of any of his religious teachers, but signed by laymen alone.

The discussion of the question came on in the House of Lords on the 10th of May, and in the Commons on the 13th.—The Speakers on both sides displayed much eloquence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Friday, May 10.

ROMAN CATHOLICS IN IRELAND.

Lord Grenville moved that the petition from his Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects of Ireland be read, which being read accordingly,

Lord Grenville rose, and said,—"I was anxious, my Lords, that you should hear the petition read, previous to my offering any observations upon the subject of it, on account of the many weighty arguments which it contains, as well as for the strain of loyalty, and the moderate and temperate manner, in which those sentiments are couched. It is my earnest wish, that this important subject may be temperately and impartially discussed; and I entertain the best hopes, that party-rage, clamour, and violence, are not likely, on such an occasion, to have the smallest weight or influence. I am aware of the arduousness, as well as of the importance of the task I have undertaken. I am aware of the numerous and powerful enemies whom I must expect, to the proposition I shall recommend. I know that it is the subject of unfounded clamour and suspicion. I know that those who support and earnestly promote such a proposition, are regarded with suspicion, indifference, and are even by many regarded as hostile to the civil and religious establishments of the country. Considerations such as these, discouraging and dismaying as they may be, shall not prevent me from fulfilling what I regard to be my duty on the present occasion.

"I shall first call your attention to the important fact, that in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, there exists a population, of at least three millions,

millions; but, according to the highest calculation, five millions, educated in the Roman Catholic religion, professing, and attached to that system. We cannot therefore regard them as heretofore, as a body comparatively small in numbers, and forming a small exception to the great majority of those we had to legislate for; but we are to consider them as persons forming three-fourths of the population of an important part of the United Kingdom. I trust no man will so flatter himself, because he wishes the existence or the preponderance of but one religion in Ireland, as to shut his eyes against the fact, that there are such a numerous body in that country to be considered as Roman Catholics, and that such have existed, but not in equal proportion, since the æra of the Reformation. What first gave rise to the system adopted, with respect to the Roman Catholics, was the consideration, that, at the time of the Revolution, and for some time after, the great mass of the Catholic body in this country were unhappily hostile to the Revolution, and this hostile spirit soon extended itself to the Catholics of Ireland. In those times, religious were blended and interwoven with political considerations. It was not to punish men for their religious opinions, or to put down those religions, or even civil doctrines; but it was expressly because the persons who professed the Catholic Religion at that time were favourably inclined to the exiled family. It was then judged expedient, by new and coercive laws, to exclude the Catholics from a participation in the Government and Constitution of the country. But this system of exclusion is now totally unnecessary. It is but justice to the memory of a great Prince, and one of the firmest friends of toleration and liberty that ever sat upon the throne, to say, that it is not upon the memory of King William that we must charge measures, taken after the accomplishment of the Revolution. In a subsequent reign, the system pursued had its rise from the impression that the Catholic in Ireland, merely because he was such, always continued the irreconcileable enemy of the established religion, and of the established government of his country. It was held that no system of lenity or concession, no lapse of time, no habits of intercourse with his fellow-subjects, would alter the mind or disposition of the Catholic, but that he would remain in principle, and in fact, in eternal hostility to the government and constitution of his country. The principle laid down, therefore, was, that it would be necessary to exclude the Roman Catholic, not only from all share in the government of his country, but to restrain him from enjoying any kind of interest therein; because interest would lead to power; and he was to possess no property, because that also would lead to power; even domestic intercourse, or the power of intermarrying with his fellow-subjects, was then withheld from him. Nay, every means was employed, to drive the Irish Catholics from the country, or, at least, to reduce them to a poor and illiterate peasantry. Of these measures it was well said by a great man, "Never was a system, if the object were good, just, or wise, more admirably calculated to accomplish that object, such as it was." The system certainly was, my Lords, well calculated to produce the desired effects; for it rendered the unhappy objects of it inconsiderable, as members of the community; of no weight, but what they derived from their numbers; perfectly alienated from their fellow subjects; and with minds imbued with no feelings but those of exasperation against them. I do not hold this language, with a view to excite your feelings of indignation, but that I may be able to present you with a pleasing contrast, afforded by the course of measures adopted during the auspicious reign of his present Majesty.—This system of amelioration was gradual, and was the better for being gradual.—They have been successively admitted to the most essential benefits of the constitution, and nearly to the complete enjoyment of it. They were admitted to a share in the elective franchise, and to a participation in the judicial parts; beginning with the lowest offices, and proceeding very far towards the highest. All this has been done under his present Majesty, and it shewed that such measures were as well calulcated to attain their beneficial, as the systems of preceding reigns were to accomplish their injurious and destructive objects. By the acts of his Majesty's reign, the wealth of Ireland has been inconceivably augmented. No country in Europe,

rope, within such a short space of time, has manifested such a degree of improvement in agriculture, general cultivation and trade, as Ireland has done; and, above all, in the most important object of civilization. Such a new and consoling picture manifested a striking contrast with that afforded by the system of exclusion. As the Catholic acquired property in his country, he increased in attachment to it. Their condition was gradually ameliorated in this way, till the year 1793, when another measure extended almost every other remaining benefit of the constitution to the Catholic; above all, it conferred the valuable privilege of voting for Members of Parliament, and admission to all the Executive Offices, with the exception of the very small number which are named in the act of 1793. This, my Lords, produced effects greatly beneficial, and here, for a time, a stand was made;—not because it was just or politic there to make a final stand, but because the whole proceeded upon the principle of gradual amelioration. There were also other considerations which operated with government at that time; the Parliament of Ireland had been constituted on a plan, the precise object of which was to make the Legislature entirely Protestant, though to the exclusion of three-fourths, at least, of the population of the country. But now happily, the great and important measure of the Union has entirely removed the difficulties I alluded to.

The fears entertained, in consequence of the great proportion which the Catholics of Ireland bear to their Protestant fellow-subjects, must be entirely done away, as the whole population of the united kingdoms, of which the Catholics form a small comparative portion, must be considered. We are now, therefore, unfettered by those difficulties, which might have rendered the safety of such a measure questionable, if adopted in a separate Irish Parliament. In consequence of the Union, hopes were excited in the breasts of the Catholics, that a consummation, so desirable as that now prayed for, would take place. But no promise was given to the Catholics that such a measure should be adopted as a consequence of the Union; altho' it is equally true, that all the arguments used in favour of that measure, reasonably induced the expectation that that question would be more completely, and effectually, considered in an united, than it could be in the local Parliament of Ireland. This was the understood pledge, and I call upon you, my Lords, in consequence of it, to take the subject into consideration. If you mean to discharge those obligations imposed upon you by the Union, you will provide, by the best means in your power, for the effectual, the real, and the essential union of all the inhabitants of the empire; not in name, or in law, only; but in interests, in hearts, in affections, and, above all, in the resolution to defend their constitution against every effort of its enemies. It is acknowledged, that, in principle, the British constitution is founded upon equal laws. Under this, a considerable degree of exclusion should not operate against four or five millions, without some manifest necessity. It has been said, that the nature of the Catholic religion is such, that no true professor of it can be a good subject, under a Protestant Government. Why then have they been freely admitted into all the offices of their country, with the exception of only twenty? Why are they suffered to come into the Courts of Justice, and swear allegiance to your Government? Were they fit to have been admitted to the army, to the whole administration of the revenue, with the exception of four or five offices, professing a religion which disqualifies them from their allegiance? Upon this point, one is disposed to look a little beyond mere assertion. I wish to look to the proof. I find in it something that somebody has brushed up from some old musty record, or some old decree of the Church. I find arguments drawn against the declarations of individuals now existing—against their whole course of life—not from any thing they profess—not from any thing they believe they profess, but because persons chuse to say, "If you are a Roman Catholic, it is in vain for you to call yourself loyal. I know your religion better than you do yourself—you think you do not hold it your duty not to keep peace with heretics; but I know you do—you think too, that you do not hold the doctrine of the dispensing power of the Pope; but it is in vain you tell me so; I know such is your opinion." I should hope, my Lords, that for any purpose of legislation,

legislation, you would think it incumbent on you to take the religion of these persons from their own construction, and not from the construction of their enemies—that you would take their own conduct as the proof of their loyalty, and not condemn them by the tenets, or doctrines, or conduct of some individuals at some remote period. I know not where the duty of perfection is to end. If you are not to judge men by their conduct, you ought not to judge them for acts of which they are not guilty. If it is true that no Catholic can be a loyal subject, because of the Councils of Lateran or Constance, or some decretal order of the Church, then you cannot only not make the concession demanded of you now, but you cannot at any time hereafter. You must recall every concession you have made, unless you are ready to begin a crusade, to drive out of the country every one of those persons you think irreconcileable enemies.

The next point on which I shall address a few observations is, on the assertion that the mass of the people of Ireland are disloyal. If that could be proved to the extent the fact existed in King William's reign, I should allow that the same reasons for imposing the restraints would justify their continuance. How shall I argue that the mass of the people of Ireland are not disloyal? by desiring you to turn to the state of Ireland, to the acts of the Legislature consisting of Protestants. See what they say of the Catholics, of whom it is asserted that they are at this moment irreconcileably disloyal. I could desire the clerk to read, not one or two, but repeated declarations by the Parliament of Ireland, that the concessions of Government were granted to the uniform good conduct and loyalty of the people of Ireland. I know I may be told that this was true up to the last rebellion in Ireland, and that the mass of the people continue tainted with the principles of that rebellion. That is only an assertion. It can continue only as such; for there is no demonstration, that the rebellion in Ireland was more or less a Catholic rebellion. There never was any thing more unjust, or unjustifiable, than to attribute the rebellion in Ireland to the Catholic Body. In the first place, down to the year of the rebellion, what had been their conduct? Before that time there had not been any thing of open rebellion in Ireland, but there had been in the empire two separate rebellions for placing the exiled family on the Throne. Look to history—Look to the acts of your Government at the time, and you will be told, that, during both these rebellions, the demeanor of the Roman Catholics of Ireland, though the object was to create a Roman Catholic King, was as loyal as possible.

During the American war there were periods when the enemy triumphed in the Channel, possessed a superior force, and threatened the invasion of the kingdom: at that time the Catholics were not only loyal, but they were esteemed as such, and trusted with arms for the purpose of repelling the common enemy. I speak in the hearing of persons who have successively filled the office of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and Secretary to the Lord Lieutenants. I ask any of them to rise and declare at what period of our history it was when the Catholic Body, as a body, appeared disaffected, either to the established Government or the Constitution? If, down to the period of the last rebellion, they were uniformly loyal, it is no slight circumstance that the rebellion in Ireland arose not from religion, but other circumstances. In the whole of the conspiracy the arrangement of the leaders was composed, not of Catholics exclusively, but of men called United Irishmen, a name given to mark an union of different sects.

The next fact is, that among the leaders of the rebellion, though there were many Catholics, there were also many Protestants. In the insurrection, the principal leaders were not Catholics, but Protestants; but it was not therefore a Protestant rebellion. That rebellion took its rise from causes different from religion—it pointed at a different object—if it had succeeded, the Catholic would have been overthrown equally with the Protestant religion. The object was not the overthrow of either, but of the Monarchical Government, and its connection with England. If it be true that four millions of persons cannot be bound by an oath, the consequence must be, that the Civil Government of Ireland cannot longer exist---the people are disqualified from enjoying any Civil Government. One need not go to extremes to prove

that this is not a very happy argument on the part of those who assert the proposition of the necessity of enforcing the restrictions. The restrictions are enforced by an oath---the Catholics are excluded, because they will not take the oath of supremacy. What! if they are not worthy of being believed on oath --if that solemnity can be dispensed with by the Pope, is it to be supposed that they would hesitate to take an oath to qualify themselves for situations which will enable them to subvert the Government of the country, and make the Pope Lord Paramount?---The argument is conclusive---if they are not fit to be believed on oath, the test is worth nothing.

Another objection which, I conceive, may be offered, is, that the time is approaching when the Catholics cannot be depended upon, because the Pope had come to Paris, and assisted in the coronation of Bonaparte.---Such trifling, ridiculous absurdities, are below serious refutation; they may operate among the ignorant and illiterate of both countries; but can a man in either House of Parliament believe that the Pope is now more powerful in Europe than during the dynasty of the Bourbons, or more desirous of subverting the Protestant Government of Great Britain and Ireland, than when the Pretender was ready to assert his claims? Certainly not. The state to which the present Pontiff is reduced, must excite feelings of pity and regret, instead of those of fear, or apprehension of his power or his influence.

My Lords, if there be any force in the opinion which has gone abroad, that you ought not to enter into the merits of this petition, it must only be from an acknowledgment that we are now arrived at the point on which we are bound to make a stand; that we must on no account proceed further. Whoever maintains this position will find himself in the wrong, because the human understanding is not capable of diving into the recesses of futurity, and saying, what circumstances or occurrences may or may not arise, which may render a change in many parts of our system, which now appear most excellent, absolutely necessary.—You have already conceded to the Catholics all civil rights, except those of seats in Parliament—heads of professions—and of the State itself. Is it not time, then, that if you confide so far in the higher orders, and not in the lower, you should endeavour to conciliate and gain the affection of the latter, by giving distinction to the former, who have influence over them, who enjoy their confidence, and who will from the very nature of the case—from every principle of self-interest, as well as of national and general welfare, exert on all occasions, that influence for their own immediate benefit, as well as that of the community? Is it politic, or can it be possible, that any practicable good can ensue from excluding three or four Catholic Peers from this House? Do your Lordships think, that if they were allowed to come into the House, do you think, I say, my Lords, they could succeed in persuading any one Lord, Spiritual or Temporal, of the weakness, the injustice, or the vanity of our establishment; or that they could prevail to make the slightest alteration in it? I am certain, that were they so inclined, they could not do it. I am equally well aware, how little danger there can ever be from admitting Catholic Members into the popular branch of the Legislature. If even half the number of the Representatives from that part of the United Empire could find their way into that situation, would fifty Catholics ever think of persuading the House of Commons to take any measures that should ever tend to separate Ireland from Great Britain? But to go farther, and suppose they should be so inclined, is Parliament so constructed as to render it possible for them to succeed in their attempts? The same fears were pretended to be entertained, and the same ridiculous arguments were very generally urged at the time of the Union between England and Scotland, that such a measure would endanger the Hierarchy. We have, however, now had the experience of a whole century, in all which time there have been 45 Members in the House of Commons; and I ask whether there has ever been one single instance in which they have made the slightest or most distant attempt to overturn the Establishment of the country, or if any one Scots Member ever endeavoured, or ever broached an idea, or a wish, to render the Presbyterian persuasion superior to the Establishment? It is really astonishing that, with such proceedings before

fore our eyes, in cases so exactly similar, we should, at this time of day, hear such arguments seriously and gravely addressed to an Assembly so enlightened as that I am now addressing.---I cannot here help asking, Is the exclusion that shuts out the Catholics from the superior offices of the Law and Navy, more proper? I have seen, in my own time, a predecessor of the Noble Lord who now sits on the woolsack; I have seen a Lord Chief Justice, a First Lord of the Admiralty, and Generals and Admirals in abundance, from that part of the United Kingdom; and yet, I believe, I can appeal to your Lordships, whether there ever was seen in one of those, while in even the highest offices, any one instance of their endeavouring to change the Episcopal Government of the country in favour of Presbyterianism? So ingenious is the desire in many persons to maintain these exclusions, that they admit it to be true, the Catholics could not easily overturn the Government: but, say they, if these privileges and franchises which the Catholics desire are so little, why are they so eager to obtain them? It appears to me, to be very obvious. I will take the three professions of the law, the navy, and the army. Let us look at the incentives which stimulate men to enter into each of those; we shall find they are a thirst for fame, and a praise-worthy ambition to rise to the highest and most eminent stations incident to each. Every student in the various Inns of Court, while he is consuming the midnight taper, and hourly encountering the difficulties and laborious researches of his profession, is stimulated to proceed, and boldly to brave every obstacle, by uniformly and constantly looking forward to that high exalted station, now filled by the Noble Lord on the woolsack, to the Chief Justice of the two superior Courts, and in their way to those to the intermediate honours and emoluments attached to the Attorney and Solicitor-General, and other desirable situations, which lead in honourable gradation to the very highest. In the two other professions there is an equally strong and natural impulse, which urges men to encounter every danger, and brave even death itself, in the never-ceasing ambition and continual hope of one day or other arriving at the proud and glorious stations of a Howe, a Nelson, or an Abercromby.

My friends, it must ever be a most consolatory and pleasing reflection to every Briton to be able to say to himself, that there is no man who walks the streets in this country, who may not, except with those exclusions I have mentioned, arise at the highest offices of the state. These are strong and powerful incentives, which nature has, with so masterly a hand, implanted in the human breast; which first lead men on, and afterwards impel them, with irresistable sway, to aspire at the highest honours and dignities, and to acquire the character of heroes. These reasons, have induced me to bring forward the motion, and my great object in doing so, is the uniting and knitting together the hearts of all descriptions of men in this realm, which, in the service of the Church, you pray for every day. I by no means ask you to say, you think as I do; all I ask of you is, that you will not shut your eyes to the case of those petitioners, but consult that which has never been considered as trivial or unworthy notice, the real welfare of the empire at large. It has long been my wish to see this most important subject brought before Parliament---though I would not, on my accord, merely press it forward, however necessary I might individually think it; but, when I found the higher orders of the Catholics in Ireland were growing impatient, and that it was their particular desire the question should be brought forward, I thought the season most favourable for that purpose. At the present hour, your outward situation requires you to unite, to close your ranks, and offer to the enemy a firm and determined phalanx, whenever he shall dare to shew himself in your country. In Ireland, it is necessary to conciliate, and I know no mode so likely to do it effectually, as by granting a fair, full, and patient consideration of this petition.

I assure you, my Lords, I feel proud in the thought, that I have been fixed on to bring it forward, as who would not feel so in being chosen as an object worthy of such particular trust and confidence, by so large a portion of his fellow-subjects, as that of entrusting to my care and management, the most important concern in which they were

ever

ever engaged. I have endeavoured to do the subject every degree of justice in my power, and will not, therefore, trouble your Lordships further, at present, than to move, "That this House will resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider the said petition."

Lord Hawkesbury (Secretary of State) spoke to the following purport:—The Noble Lord has not defined the nature of his motion; but whatever it may go to, I have ever deprecated the idea of its being brought forward. I allow the Catholics have been, and are, loyal and good subjects, and that every imputation to the contrary may be unfounded; I allow there are no laws which circumstances may not render it necessary to abrogate, but there are also laws of that importance, that they ought never to be broke in upon. The first principle of law at the Revolution, and of the bill of rights, is, that the Sovereign must be a Protestant. Another important point follows of necessity, That where a King must be of the established persuasion, those who advise him must be the same. Where, as with us, the law is above the Crown, these principles cannot be too strictly adhered to. If I were not altogether hostile to the motion, I should see danger in it, however modified. There is a great difference between Protestant Dissenters and Catholics. The former do not acknowledge any foreign jurisdiction, or pay obedience to any foreign power; the Catholics do; and there is no Protestant but must see, that where you allow an ecclesiastical jurisdiction there must arise a civil one.

The present question is not, whether persons holding these tenets shall have civil right, but whether they shall enjoy political power? and of this I can allow of no increase. Some years ago the Legislature of Ireland granted Catholics the elective franchise, whether wisely or not, I will not say. It may now be beneficial to the Catholics, and not detrimental to Government, because they must return Protestant Members; but once open to them the right of being returned Members themselves, and it would amount to little less than universal suffrage, and might become a contest whether Catholic or Protestant voters should govern counties. Whoever reflects on the present situation of Europe, and recollects, that, except the House of Austria, all the Catholic Governments in it are under the dominion of France, will see there never was a moment more marked than the present, in which sound reason should teach us to oppose the present proposition. We should wait and see the issue of the contest in which we are engaged, before we give the Catholics a power we may hereafter most bitterly repent of. If we inquire what practical benefit is likely to result to the persons more immediately interested in this application, I venture to pronounce that they will not correspond to the expectations which have been excited. The individuals amongst the great body of the Irish Catholics, who could possibly be benefited, would be but few, while the general mass of the population would be little interested; and the very partial benefit would be conferred at the expence of the whole system of your laws. I consider the law as it now stands with respect to the Catholics, as the outworks of the establishment, civil and religious, of this country; as such, I call upon you here to make your stand, and to defend it; for be assured, that if you give it up, you will have to fight for it again, and under very considerable disadvantage. Loose, indiscriminate concessions, without a view to all relative circumstances, are, in my opinion, bad policy.

I grant, that the former concessions to the Irish Roman Catholics were beneficial, in as much as the old penal statutes against them were severe and oppressive; at the same time I cannot help remarking, that whilst during the two rebellions in 1715 and 1745, Ireland was tranquil; since the concessions have been granted, a rebellion has broken out in that country. These concessions were of little consequence as to the substance of them, but not so as to the moment when they were granted; for they served to throw the country into a state of irritation, and to excite a pertinacity in the Roman Catholics of Ireland to make further demands. I therefore, my Lords, cannot but give it as my opinion, that the wisest method to adopt towards them is to make them sensible that it is your determination to adopt towards them a steady system of policy. The general rule, in all well-regulated governments, I take to be, that those invested with power and magistracy,

gistracy, should conform to the established religion of the country.

This was the case in ancient times, with regard to Athens and Rome; and, in modern times, in almost every state, with one or two exceptions. It has been thus in Holland—in the elective monarchy of Poland—in the Cantons of Switzerland, &c. Such also was the opinion of our glorious deliverer (afterwards King William) who being consulted just before the Revolution, gave it as his opinion, that new laws ought not to be introduced, nor old ones abrogated on the subject of religion. The only places which form an exception to this general rule are France, which, in the National Assembly, proclaimed the equality of all religions, and the United States of America; but the experiment has not proved successful, and the only effect has been, to produce a spirit of indifference to religion. The extent of the motion would go to the repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts of this country, (the former of which was principally directed as a guard against the Dissenters, and the latter against the Papists,) of the Bill of Rights and the Act of Settlement. It is by an adherence to these laws, that you will act up to the wisest policy, and thus hand down to your posterity, unimpaired and unchanged, what you yourself have deemed your choicest birth-right.

His Royal Highness the *Duke of Cumberland* spoke with much animation nearly as follows:—After the able manner in which the noble Secretary of State has explained to this House reasons, which, I trust, will induce you to reject the motion, it will not be necessary for me to enter diffusely into this question. But when I reflect on what were the circumstances which brought our family to the throne, and when I consider what is the object of the petition, it is impossible for me to remain totally silent. The circumstances which brought our family to the British throne, your Lordships well know, originated in the Revolution. The great object of that Revolution was to secure the religion and liberties of these realms. These objects were confirmed by the act of settlement, by the declaration of rights, by the oath of supremacy and abjuration, and by the succession to the Crown in the Protestant line. To maintain and uphold all these, our family was called to the throne. And whatever can militate with these principles, in the remotest degree, it is my bounden duty, as a branch of that family, as a member of your Lordships' house, to resist.—The object of the petition is to enable the Catholics to hold offices of trust and power in the State. Was it not to oppose such a system, that the Revolution originated?—Was it not the very life and soul of that memorable transaction to secure the rights of Church and State?—Are we then, my Lords, now to undo all that the revolution has done? Bear in mind, my Lords, the scenes that preceded the Revolution; they are strong proofs, that the participation of equal power, by Catholics and Protestants, is a thing impossible for Protestants and Catholics to agree in the administration of political power? What then will follow if the Catholics be admitted to the great offices of trust? You will soon see what, thank God, till now we have only read; we shall experience the same confusion and bloodshed which stained all the reigns from Mary, who began with granting them a dispensing power to hold offices of State, down to James, who ended with the dispensing power in their favour. He hurled himself from his throne by conferring on them offices of trust and power, which afterwards drew down on them all the weight of the penal laws. I am justified, therefore, in concluding, that there can be no boon more fraught with mischief to King and subjects conferred than that prayed for in this petition. Not only, however, the awful experience of past times, but the temper of the present times call upon us to pause, and to listen to the voice of the two great capitals of the empire, and the different counties in the united kingdom against this petition*. We know, my Lords, what are the feelings and sentiments of this nation, with respect to the causes and consequences of the Revolution. The memory of it is kept alive daily by the most solemn acts,

* Petitions were presented to Parliament from the cities of London and Dublin, and several counties in England and Ireland, against the Catholic petition.

acts, when men are called to undertake public and corporate functions. His Majesty's subjects on such occasions swear to preserve his supremacy in ecclesiastical and civil matters. Does that petition acknowledge that supremacy in ecclesiastical matters? No! If then you surrender the power of the State to those who deny that supremacy, you do not maintain that supremacy, but virtually surrender it.

Far be it from me, my Lords, to fetter the consciences of any class of men; but equally far be it from me to pull down, by rash innovation, any of the venerable pillars of the Constitution. All that can be given consistently with reason and conscience, I am prompt to give. But the Constitution, I *cannot*, *dare not*, WILL NOT give. I must uphold and support, with the last effort of my nature, the establishment in Church and State, as the great step by which the House of Brunswick ascended the throne.

Earl Spencer denied, that the prayer of the petition went to the establishment of the Roman Catholic religion, or to the repeal of the act of settlement. His Lordship supported the motion.

Viscount Sidmouth (President of the Council) declared, that while he was willing to go the whole length of toleration, he could not go the whole length which the motion had suggested. He believed the character and views of the Roman Catholics to be upright and sincere; but he was sorry that they were placed in such situations, when obedience to the impulse of what they considered to be duty might prove disastrous to the country. His Lordship then took a retrospective view, from which he inferred, that, from the Reformation down to the Revolution, the necessities of the times had imposed those measures which had been adopted against the Catholics, and that no instances could be produced, in which the Protestants and Papists had agreed in exercising the Government of the country. "Let us," said his Lordship, "preserve our Protestant King and Protestant Parliament. A Protestant Parliament preserved this country from the danger of a Popish King. Let us follow the example of our Protestant deliverer, (King William,) and whilst we treat with respect our Roman Catholic fellow subjects, guard against their acquiring additional power in the State; for of this we may be assured, that every step we take in this matter will be attended with danger."

Lord Mulgrave (Secretary of State) thought the question should not have been brought forward at this moment, as it could only tend to revive religious animosities; his confidence in the expediency of the measure was considerably shaken, when a question of such delicacy, and such importance, was agitated at this time. He thought there were sufficient reasons for not going one step further, and he should vote against the motion.

Lord Holland supported the motion, and answered the arguments of Lord Hawkesbury and Viscount Sidmouth, in a pretty long speech, which he concluded with the following words:—"The history of all countries shews, that if you cannot secure the hearts of the people, which is only to be done by giving them full and complete enjoyment of their country and its constitution, you must have recourse to a coercive system; but I am sure, in the present state of Europe, you cannot wish to try the temper and dispositions of the people of Ireland."

The *Bishop of Durham* thought it highly essential that the principles of the established church should be inviolably preserved: he professed himself no enemy to toleration, but said, that he had read the petition with the greatest attention, and he could not see any security in any concessions which could be made; he wished the education of the lower classes could be improved; but he could not find any thing in the question that could promote social and domestic happiness.

Lord Redesdale (Lord Chancellor of Ireland) spoke at considerable length against the motion. The claims set forth in the petition he considered as altogether unjustifiable, and a compliance with them would be nothing short of a complete surrender of the Constitution in Church and State. If the Catholics were to have an equal participation of political rights, they would soon possess themselves of the Government of the State, and the Protestant Establishment would very soon be destroyed. The Roman Catholics of Ireland enjoyed greater privileges than those of any other country; yet they were not

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contented without becoming possessed of the means of obtaining the whole power of the State. In the terms of the Union it is expressly provided, that the established Church of England and Ireland shall be preserved in their present state; but this could no longer be the case if the present claims were agreed to; for in that event the Roman Catholic Religion would, as a necessary consequence, become the religion of Ireland. The Catholic Bishops, who, with all their assumed titles, have all the forms of a regular hierarchy, would instantly claim the established Sees and domains of the Protestant Church, and with the Catholic power prevailing, nothing could resist their demands. This, it was true, had been disclaimed by the petitioners; but was it disclaimed by the Catholic Bishops?—It certainly was not; and no doubt of their object could be entertained. By the terms of the Union between England and Scotland, it was agreed that the established Churches of both should be preserved; and any member of the Church of Scotland accepting an appointment in the State, is obliged to take a certain test to qualify him for holding the same. The Irish Catholic, however, refuses to give any test of his principles, and claiming a greater privilege than a member of the Church of Scotland, insists upon being admitted to a full and unconditional participation of all privileges. The Irish Bishops, even at present, proclaim themselves as possessing all the regular titles of the Bishops of the Protestant Church; and even went so far, a few years back, as to sign themselves in this assumed capacity in a petition presented to the Irish Parliament; nor was there a member, except one, who had the courage to reprobate so indecent an usurpation.

This assumed Hierarchy, he did not hesitate to say, was highly dangerous to the State, and he considered its total annihilation as necessary to the peace and safety of the country. It was a power exercising the most arbitrary sway, uncontrouled by law, and supporting its authority by the most dreaded means of excommunication on failure of obedience. They possessed far greater power than the Protestants, and infinitely more than even the Bishops of any Catholic country. The tyranny of this conduct has been evinced in a variety of cases. A man had lately been excommunicated for having been married by a Protestant Clergyman; and tho' afterwards advised, for the purpose of making his peace with his own clergy, to be married according to the rites of the Catholic Church, yet was he not again admitted into the congregation, until he had performed a penance of walking round the country, to a distance of 30 miles, and visiting certain holy wells. In fact, it was a principle among the Catholics, to hold no communication with Protestants; and he had been assured by some very respectable Priests, that no such communication was permitted; and whenever it took place, it was upon the express condition of the utmost secrecy being observed upon the subject. A Protestant, as a term of reproach, is called by an Irish term which signifies an Englishman, and the English Government is held a tyranny among them. These prejudices are excited by the Bishops, whose study it is to render the English name odious among the people. There are many parts in Ireland in which a Protestant dare not venture to reside; and a labourer of that persuasion would not be permitted to dwell among the peasants. Protestants were not suffered to act as servants; and even in Dublin, such was the difficulty Protestants had to have their children brought up in that capacity, that for the greater part "they were forced to bring them up as handicraftsmen." All this, he repeated, was owing to the undue influence exercised by the Hierarchy over the people, most of whom, he was persuaded, would be happy to rid themselves of the tyranny thus exercised over them. Many of the Catholics, he was ready to admit, were good subjects. One Noble Lord, in particular, (Lord Fingal,) his Lordship described as an amiable, well-meaning person, when left to himself, but when he submitted himself to the counsel of the Priests, his natural manners became changed. Even in foreign countries, Catholic Bishops were held in disrepute; and it was well known that the Catholics of Canada, who wanted only the free exercise of their religion, were greatly displeased at having a Bishop placed over them. To inflame the Catholics of Ireland still more against the Protestants, they had been

been told, in a late publication by a Gentleman of the Irish Bar, (Mr Scully,) that it was to their own energies they were indebted for every privilege they possessed, and that a perseverance in those energies would accomplish for them their present desires. In the present state of affairs, he therefore thought it would be little short of madness to entertain the prayer of the petition. If the claims now set forth were admitted, he had no hesitation to say, that except in the North, where several Protestants resided, and in the garrison towns, no Protestant could live in Ireland; he would be driven from the country by means of the doctrines taught by the Priesthood, and the safety of none could be ensured. His Lordship then compared the mild character of the English peasants with the turbulent conduct of those of Ireland, and attributed the wide difference between them to the influence of the Clergy; and after stating several more circumstances to prove the inimical sentiments of the Irish Catholics towards the Protestants, and the baleful influence of the Pope, he concluded by saying, that so long as the Catholics continued the slaves of those who have made them so, he must consider them totally unfit to possess any of these political privileges they now sought to obtain.

The Earl of Limerick objected strongly to the time of bringing forward the Catholic claims, and made some allusions to the influence of the Pope, who had become the instrument of Bonaparte's ambition, and written to the loyal French Bishops to relinquish their allegiance to their lawful Sovereign, and transfer it to the Usurper. His Lordship acknowledged the general loyalty of the Catholics, and paid a handsome tribute to the merits of Lord Fingal; but upon every consideration of the subject, gave his decided negative to the motion.

At three o'clock in the morning, the debate was adjourned till Monday the 13th.

May 13th.—The debate on the Catholic petition being resumed,

Lord Suffolk wished their Lordships to give a voluntary and cordial assent to the prayer of the petition. They should consider that it was the prayer of four millions of their fellow-subjects. The time must arrive when the boon should be granted, and it was surely better that it should be granted freely than extorted. Every one knew that the Catholics were taught to look to the Union as a measure which afforded them the strongest hopes of a complete emancipation. But the only result which they had yet experienced was an enormous increase of taxation.

The *Earl of Buckinghamshire* said, that having been the person who, in the Parliament of Ireland, proposed the bill of 1793, in favour of the Catholics, he could not permit himself to give a silent vote on this occasion. By that bill they were not only admitted to a parity of civil rights with Protestants, but were even exempted from certain political burdens which attached upon the latter. He could not assent to their present claims, because the whole frame of our constitution excluded Catholics from any share of political power. The bill which he introduced was a proof that he affixed no imputation of disloyalty on the great body of the Catholics; nor did he contend for the continuance of the remaining restrictions on any such principle. Would any man argue, because dissenters were precluded from political power, by the test and corporation acts, that the state suspected them of disloyalty? At the time he was in Ireland, he was convinced that a more loyal body did not exist than the Roman Catholic Nobility and Gentry. But these had since ceased to have much influence with the lower classes. The management of their affairs had since been intrusted to a Committee, who, though he would not charge them with disloyalty, had certainly rendered their principles suspicious, by employing, as their chief agent, T. Wolfe Tone, the founder of the Society of United Irishmen. He could never bring himself to consent to their having any share of political power, while they continued to acknowledge the jurisdiction of a foreign potentate, and that they still did so, he proved by a quotation from a pastoral letter, published in 1792, by Dr Troyes, the Titular Archbishop of Dublin.

Lord Carleton was adverse to any further extension of the rights of Catholics. They at present enjoyed the most ample toleration of their religion, and as to civil rights, were in several respects more favoured than the Protes-

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tant Dissenters in this country. He would ask, Whether it was intended to repeal the test act in favour of Catholics, and maintain it in force with respect to all other sectaries? or, in other words, Whether those who differed most widely from us, should be admitted to a share of political power; while those, whose difference was much less, were to be excluded from that privilege? He wished Noble Lords to consider what an extent of authority was involved in the acknowledgment of the supremacy of the Pope, as was contended for by the Catholics of Ireland. It extended to the decision, in the last result, of all questions of marriage, divorce, and wills, and by consequence to the very numerous collateral points connected with these. He was the more jealous of conceding any political power to Catholics, as he knew that they still anxiously looked to a period when they might be able to reverse all the grants made under the act of settlement and explanation, and in the reigns of Elizabeth, James I. and William III.

Lord Hutchinson said, it was with equal suprise and regret he heard the remarks which had fallen from some Noble Lords on the other side, with respect to the temper and character of the Irish Catholics. In the Parliament of Ireland, indeed, he had been accustomed to hear little else than libels on the character of his countrymen.—He expected their example would not have been imitated on this side of the water. What was there in the conduct or feelings of the majority of the people of Ireland, which unfitted them for the enjoyment of the blessings of the British constitution: They were a people, brave, generous, gallant, and hospitable. Their virtues were peculiarly their own; their vices were such only as were incident to every nation placed in the degraded condition, to which they had for centuries been reduced. It seemed to have been heretofore the only object of Government to separate them into two distinct communities, and in this purpose they had but too well succeeded. The Parliament conducted itself as if its only duty had been to legislate not *for*, but *against* their countrymen. Even since it had become the fashion to preach up conciliation, liberality had been in the mouth of *all*, but bitterness remained in the hearts of many. Allusions had been made to the expected benefits of the Union. He, for one, would state, that in wishing well to that measure, he expected it would lead to the abolition of those galling and injurious distinctions, under which the Catholics laboured; and if it did not produce that effect, he must say, that while it afforded him little to *console* him for surrendering the independence of his country, it left him much to *repent*. He conjured their Lordships to heal the wounds of his irritated, persecuted, and much calumniated countrymen. Let them recollect that their injuries were the work of many centuries; and it would require the soothing hand of time, with a gentle and lenient administration, to eradicate all remembrance of them. A Noble and Learned Lord had panegyrized the tranquillity which existed in Ireland under the penal statutes; but he forgot to tell the House that it was only the repose of desolation, the tranquillity of a goal disturbed only by the rattling of chains. He would not conceal it, that the refusal of the Catholic claims might be pregnant with danger; but let them be granted, and what was now the weakness would become the strength of the empire. The Noble Lord concluded with calling upon Lord Redesdale to state his authorities for the uncharitable disposition which he ascribed to the Catholics of Ireland, and to cite the instances in which Protestant servants and day-labourers had been refused employment by Catholics.

Lord Redesdale stated, that in his official character as trustee for various charities for the education of poor female children, he had occasion to know the difficulty of putting them out to service, particularly in Dublin. He also repeated his assertions with respect to the uncharitable doctrines inculcated by the Catholic Hierarchy; an Hierarchy which he must denominate *rebellious*, as it not only acted, but existed in defiance of law.

Lord Ormond expressed his surprise at the speech of the Noble and Learned Lord (Redesdale;) it was nothing more than a string of old women's stories. Where the Noble Lord found that Catholics and Protestants would not serve together in the same family he did not know. He knew not what were the arrangements of the Noble Lord's household, but he could tell him, that in his

own

own employment, Catholics and Protestants completely harmonized.

The *Archbishop of Canterbury* enumerated the various privileges which had been conceded to the Catholics, by the 18th, 22d, 31st, and 33d of his present Majesty, and expressed his surprise, that after such a series of concessions, such a petition should be brought forward: toleration was the brightest ornament of the Church of England; but the privileges now sought were inconsistent with the very idea of toleration. They struck at the act of settlement; and tended to give not only equality, but eventually superiority to the Roman Catholic religion in a Protestant state.

Lord Albemarle was decidedly favourable to the prayer of the petition. He referred to the decisions of various foreign Universities, in proof that the tenets of holding no faith with heretics, and of the Pope having a power to annul the allegiance of the subject, were not maintained by the Catholic Church.

The *Lord Chancellor*, in opposing the motion, conceived himself to be discharging a duty which he owed to the memory of our illustrious ancestors, to the blessings which we enjoyed under the work of their hands, the British Protestant constitution; to his Sovereign as a Protestant King; and to the great majority of his fellow countrymen as Protestant subjects. The petition was founded on an erroneous principle. It stated the basis of the British constitution to be the extension of equal political rights to subjects of every description. If this were true, why had we not universal suffrage? Why were so many of the Irish and of the Scotch Peers excluded from seats in that House? Why was a certain qualification in landed property necessary to a seat in the other House? The answer to all these questions would prove, that our constitution was one which extended civil rights to all, but political rights only to persons possessing certain qualifications, and performing certain conditions. Religious opinion was not *per se* a disqualification, but it was religious opinion connected with certain political principles which so operated. To prove this position, his Lordship referred to the proceedings and declarations of the Legislature, from the commencement of the reign of Charles II. to the act by which the present Royal Family was seated on the throne. By the constitution we must have a Protestant King. Would you surround him with Popish Counsellors? If you would not, then the concession of the principle to the Catholics would be nugatory. If you would, then you would place Papists in a situation in which, on many occasions, they could not, as honest and sincerely religious men, give his Majesty that advice which the interest and safety of the Protestant state required.

The *Duke of Norfolk* argued in support of the motion.

The *Earl of Westmoreland*, the *Bishop of St Asaph*, and *Lord Ellenborough*, severally spoke against the motion.

The Earl of Moira expressed a wish that the question should be relieved from a great deal of extraneous matter with which it had been encumbered, and that it should be brought to the test of that plain good sense on which he conceived it to rest. He thought the complexion of the present times demanded that every exertion should be made to procure an unanimity of heart and mind in the cause of the country. It was very true, that to give the Catholics the privilege of admission to the few offices from which they were excluded, would be giving them little, but the gift would shew a disposition to conciliate their affections, which would be in that point of view important. He was surprised to hear it said, that the petition tended to throw the torch of discord into the country? he was of opinion, that the object of it would tend to establish that harmony most essential to the country at the present moment. While he made these observations, he wished to speak with the utmost respect towards the established Church, which he did not think would be endangered by granting the Catholic claims. He wished, therefore, the petition should be referred to a Committee, to consider whether any danger could really arise from conceding those claims; and if any part of them might be safely admitted; he should be desirous of weighing well each object which the Catholics had in view, and investigating in what manner it would operate with respect to the Church establishment, before he gave his consent to the admission of the claim which it involved.

Lord Grenville made a very able reply

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to all the arguments adduced against his motion. He condemned the assertions made by Lord Redesdale relating to the principles and conduct of the Irish Catholics, the direct contrary of which he pledged himself to prove if the proposed Committee were granted. He lamented that such sentiments should have been broached by such a person; and observed, that the calumniated hierarchy had acted directly the reverse of what had been imputed to them.

It had been admitted that the Catholic Noblemen and Gentlemen were loyal and deserving men. If so, where, he would ask, could be the danger of the measure? For none but the Noblemen and Gentlemen would be expected to hold any situation of important trust in the state. His Lordship then combated, with much force, the whole of the other arguments which had been adduced against the question, and declared his firm conviction that the adoption of the measure was necessary to the security of the Empire. Let the result be what it would, the discussion must produce essential good. Its general complexion was such as to prove, that reason must triumph in the end; success may, for a time, be deferred; but the cause of justice must ultimately prevail.

At six in the morning the House divided,

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[*The Debate in the House of Commons on the Catholic petition in our next.*]

THE

Monthly Register

FOR JUNE 1805.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

WEST INDIES.

THE buccanneering expedition of the French squadron from Rochefort, in this quarter, has terminated, without attempting any further depredations than what we detailed in our last Magazine. The squadron sailed from Fort Royal, Martinique, on the 24th March, for St Domingo, and landed at that city 550 men, under General Lagrange, with a quantity of stores, as a reinforcement to General Ferrand. On the 28th, having no doubt heard of Admiral Cochrane's arrival in these seas, they set sail home for France. On the 13th of April Admiral Cochrane arrived off St Domingo, and learnt the above intelligence. He came back to St Lucia, where he was on the 1st of May, without hearing any thing further of the enemy's squadron.

The French accounts mention, that the prizes sent into Martinique had sold for more than 100,000l. and that most of them were purchased for the English. A greater number had been sent to Guadaloupe, but not sold. These islands are represented as being in a complete state of defence; about 8000 troops of the line, and as many militia, with plenty of ammunition and stores.

The city of St Domingo was invested on the 10th of March by the army of the Emperor Dessalines; and so closely were the French hemmed in, that vessels, either sailing from or entering the port, were exposed to the musketry of the troops which lined the shore. General Ferrand was, according to the latest intelligence, determined to perish rather than suffer the

Blacks

Blacks to take possession of the place. In a spirited address he exhorts his troops to defend the town to the last extremity. Having assured them, that, surrounded on one side by the brigands and on the other side by the sea, without a single vessel to favour their escape, he tells them they can have no hope of safety, but in victory alone; and calls on them to perish or conquer. We are told, accordingly, that Ferrand, after being reinforced by Lagrange, had made a sortie on the Blacks, and completely defeated them; killing one of their Generals and a number of men; which had determined Dessalines to draw off from the city, and retire with his army to the mountains.

At Jamaica, every possible preparation had been made by the Government and inhabitants to oppose any French force which might be landed. The merchants of Kingston had furnished the horses necessary for transporting six field-pieces and two howitzers to Up-Park Camp. Martial law had been proclaimed on 1st of May; and frequent musters of the militia had been ordered, and every other measure resorted to that could ensure the safety of the island. The effective force consisted of upwards of 12,000 men. And Government, we learn, have given the English merchants renewed assurances of their confidence in the security of this valuable island. The garrisons in our other islands were in excellent health, and every measure had been adopted to guard against any future attempt of the enemy.

The great Jamaica fleet, which sailed from Corke in January, and about which serious apprehensions were entertained, arrived safe at Kingston the beginning of April. The Leeward Island fleet from London, arrived at Antigua on the 10th of that month, and a valuable fleet from England arrived at Surinam on the 5th, without a ship missing, though they were often in danger of the enemy's privateers, which were very numerous.

ENGLAND.

Naval Operations.

Respecting the combined French and Spanish squadrons, which sailed from Cadiz on the 10th of April, all is still uncertainty, and the conjectures as to their destination have been various. It is only ascertained that they did not return to Cadiz. The Captain of a Portuguese man of war is reported to have met them off the Cape de Verd islands about the middle of May, and that their destination was the Brazils, but first to touch at the Cape of Good Hope. The East Indies has been with some probability assigned to them, as a quarter where they might greatly annoy our trade, and attack detached points of our territory; but in this view, only the French division would proceed to the East. The fact however is, we have no information as to their real destination.

Accounts have been at length received from Lord Nelson, stating his having passed the Straits of Gibraltar in the beginning of May, and after re-connoitering Cadiz, had anchored in Lagos Bay on the 10th. It is added that his Lordship actually sailed on the 13th for the West Indies, with 10 ships of the line, having received certain information that such was the destination of the combined fleets.

The Queen and Dragon men of war, with the expedition under General Sir James Craig, had reached the latitude of Cadiz, when they fell in with an English sloop of war, who informed them of the sailing of the combined fleets; upon which they put back, and arrived in Oporto roads on the 7th of May. Having heard of Lord Nelson's passing the Straits, they sailed again, and reached Gibraltar safe on the 13th. The troops were all in good health and spirits. Respecting the object of this expedition, we are without any certain information. Report says, that Sir James Craig's instructions are to get possession of Minorca, if that can be accomplished without much loss of time; but in the event of any formidable obstacle presenting itself, he is to abandon the project, and proceed up the Mediterranean, upon an enterprise of infinitely greater magnitude and importance. This statement, however, is not supported by probability. If Sir James shall take Minorca, and leave a sufficient garrison, how can he undertake any enterprize of magnitude up the Mediterranean, unless indeed there be a very considerable disposable force at Malta.

The expedition, however, remained at Gibraltar on the 25th May. The trade for England was lying in the bay, waiting for the convoy from Malta. The enemy's gun-boats in the bay of Gibraltar were still very troublesome, and our gun-brigs were by no means a match for them, being armed with large carronades, which were of no use when opposed to the long guns and superior rowing of the Spanish boats. A Spanish Admiral and 20 more gun-boats were expected from Carthagena.

According to accounts from Madrid, a Spanish squadron of six ships of the line sailed from Carthagena on the 27th of April, but returned to port next day, having met with Lord Nelson's fleet, or with some ships they mistook for it.

Letters from Madrid state, that three Spanish privateers had taken six English prizes, besides an English golletta, which was carried by boarding, after an obstinate engagement, in which the English had 28 men killed and 6 wounded. The golletta, it is added, sunk, but the surviving crew were saved.

Ninety-seven vessels were detained and sent into Malta by the British cruizers between the 11th of October 1804 and 10th March 1805.

It is generally believed that the Rochefort squadron has actually effected its safe return to that port from the West Indies on the 22d of May, without having encountered a single British ship of war. A most extraordinary instance of good fortune.

It is announced in the French papers, that another division of two ships of 80 guns, a frigate, and a corvette, with 1200 troops, sailed from Rochefort, on the 1st of May, on a secret expedition, supposed also for the West Indies. They appear likewise to have evaded the pursuit of the British cruizers.

According to the latest report from the enemy's ports, they had at Ferrol 12 ships of the line, besides frigates;—at Rochefort, 6 ships of the line, 3 frigates, and 2 brigs, besides gun-boats;—and at Brest 21 sail of the line, with 27,000 troops *embarked*. Lord Gardner has an equal number of ships of the line, but he has 11 three-deckers, the enemy but three.

The opinion that the long threatened invasion will be speedily and seriously attemped is now generally prevalent. Certain it is, that the activity which prevails along the enemy's opposite line of coast, has not been surpassed at any period since the formation of the first armament at Boulogne. In the beginning of June, the troops along the shore at Boulogne, and the vessels in the outer harbour, were distinctly observed to be in movement. About an hundred vessels came out close to the mouth of the bay, and a large quantity of heavy artillery was drawn down to the sea side apparently for embarkation. About seventy vessels of different descriptions were expected at Boulogne from Dunkirk. The preparations of the enemy are no longer confined to a few principal points, but extend the whole of the way to Dieppe. The Texel fleet of seven sail of the line, several frigates, and a number of transports, is also said to be completely ready for sea; and Government are in expectation that a simultaneous movement toward our coast will be made the very first opportunity that occurs, which is understood to be when the escape of the Brest fleet (certainly, we are told, destined for Ireland,) and the pursuit of it by our Channel fleet, shall leave the coast clear for the Boulogne fry.

That there may not be more of conjecture than reality in the above statements—that the demonstrations of the enemy may not be, as heretofore, a feint, to alarm and agitate us, we have no means of ascertaining. Alarm or agitation they will not produce; caution and vigilance they have (as it should be) commanded. Our Texel squadron has been reinforced with three sail of the line, and some fifty gun ships; and the precautions adopted by the government are commensurate with the danger with which we are threatened. On every part of the coast, where there seems a possibility of the enemy effecting a landing, patroles, signal posts, and beacons are established; and such is the judicious disposition which has been made of our military force, that, in a very few hours, more troops could be assembled at any given point than the enemy could land in the same given time. Thus prepared to meet him, we fear not the coming of the vengeful foe.

The Orpheus frigate sailed from Lisbon the 20th May with a convoy for

for England, having Lord Robert Fitzgerald on board, who is coming home on private business, and has left Lord Strangford, his Secetary, as Charge d' Affaires at the Court of Portugal.—The Orpheus has arrived safe with her convoy.

Sir S. Hood is arrived at Portsmouth from Barbadoes in the Amsterdam frigate.

Letters from Dover mention a gallant but unsuccessful attempt on the part of the Courier armed cutter, Lieut. Boxer, to cut out a lugger privateer from under the batteries of Treport. A Lieutenant of the Megæra, and 14 volunteer seamen from that ship, accompanied the Courier. Unfortunately, however, before she reached the privateer, it became a perfect calm, which left her exposed for some time to a vigorous fire of the enemy's batteries. She received several shots in her Hull, and was otherwise much damaged, and the Lieutenant of the Megæra, with one seamen, was killed, and another mortally wounded.

The Windsor Castle Packet, Capt. Sutton, on her passage from Jamaica to Barbadoes, maintained a running fight of four hours with a French privateer, during which the latter twice attempted to board, but were repulsed with great loss. The privateer carried 20 guns, 12 and 9-pounders, and 175 men; the packet had only eight guns, and 32 people on board, including three passengers (Messrs. Graham, Franklin, and Ledbatt), who, with six seamen, were wounded. One seamen was killed. The merchants of Barbadoes have voted a piece of plate, value 150 guineas, to Capt. Sutton, for his gallant defence of the mails.

The Lady Nelson letter of marque, of Glasgow, has captured a Spanish vessel, from Carthagena, for Cadiz, worth 100,000l. and has carried her to America. The Lady Nelson and her prize afterwards experienced very severe weather, and were nearly sinking when they reached James River.

The American ship China, from Batavia for Philadelphia, with a cargo worth 500,000 dollars, was lost in soundings on the 21st April; about 700 bags of coffee only have been saved. This is the 6th vessel of the like description lost within eight months.

The Hope, M'Gregor, of Greenock, arrived at New York from that port on the 22d April. On 26th February, lat. 52. N. long. 24.61. W. fell in with the American East India ship Canton, without any person on board, and seven feet water in the hold. Capt. M'Gregor, after taking out part of her cargo, sent his mate, carpenter and three men on board, with orders to carry her to Antigua. It appears from papers found on board the ship, that after sustaining many hardships from stress of weather, having previously lost half her crew by sickness and fevers, the survivors had deserted her, and were taken on board a Swedish Indiaman. The American was afterwards taken by a French privateer, carried into Guadaloupe, and condemned.

The Nymph of Montrose, William Barclay master, is lost near Domesness, in the Baltic. She was unfortunately jammed in betwixt two pieces of ice, which in ten minutes laid her on her broadside, and in five minutes more she went down with all hands. Other two Montrose vessels witnessed the sad catastrophe, but from the vicinity of the land, and violence of the wind, could render no assistance. This loss is attended with mournful circumstances of distress: five of the crew were the Captain's nephews, and one his intended son-in-law. Captain Barclay's death is much lamented.

The London Gazette gives notice, that the first and second instalments under the convention with the United States of America, have now been paid into the Bank of England, in the name of the Commissioners, pursuant to the act, and the claimants are directed to be prepared to prove their titles, &c.

The accounts of the English merchants having claims on the Court of Madrid for balances due and detained in the Bank of that city at the commencement of the last war, are shortly expected to be put in a state of payment, with interest. The payment is to be made out of that part of the specie ascertained to be the immediate property of the Spanish government, which was detained previous to the declaration of the present war with Spain, most of which is now safely lodged in the Bank of England. The claims, we understand, amount to about 800,000l.

The London Gazette of May 31. announced

nounces the establishment of the Board of Health, to prepare and digest rules and regulations for the most speedy and effectual mode of guarding against the introduction and spreading of infection.

A Court Martial has pronounced sentence of death on the Master of the Delphin storeship, for striking his Lieutenant, but is strongly recommended to mercy.

The Bishop of St David's has appropriated one-tenth of his income to public school institutions within his diocese.

By a recent return made to the Court of Denmark, it appears that 28,966 persons have been inoculated for the cow-pock since the introduction of this practice, without a single instance of mortality occurring from it.

A very distressing circumstance occured on the 1st of June, in the neighbourhood of Bristol: A glass-engraver, who a short time before had arrived in that city with his wife and four children from Scotland, went with his family to see the review of the Volunteers, and in the evening returning by a pond on the Kingswood road, a hoop with which one of the children was playing fell into the water, and he stooping to reach it, fell in also: the mother, who was far advanced in her pregnancy, hastened to his rescue, but slipped and sunk: the father instantly plunged in to their relief, but unfortunately they all perished!

Two or three days since, one of the powder-mills at Dartford blew up with a tremendous explosion: two men at work were killed; their limbs were found some distance from the place; and a horse in the mill was torn to pieces, while a boy who was near it did not receive the slightest injury.

IRELAND.

A few days ago, Lieut. Clarke of the 71st Highland regiment was attacked by six footpads, a few miles from Limerick. The Lieutenant was in a travelling chaise, and happened to be asleep, when the horses were stopped, and the chaise-boy knocked down between them by the stroke of a pistol. Each door of the chaise was immediately opened, and the Lieutenant pinioned; the tearing off his epaulets awoke him, and finding them rifling his pockets, he attempted to preserve his watch, when one of the villains fired at his head, but happily missed him. Mr Clarke having got his hand into the basket of his broad sword, forced his way out of the carriage, and while doing so, one of the robbers seized his sword by the scabbard, and unsheathed it. The moment Mr Clarke got out, he received a most severe blow in the temple, by which he was stunned and severely cut.—Recovering, however, he disabled the first of his assailants who approached him, and drove his sword into the body of the second, on which the remaining four fled. Mr Clarke returned to Limerick with his two prisoners, and lodged them in gaol. The Magistrates of that county intend to madifest, by a handsome compliment, their approbation of his resolute conduct.

SCOTLAND.

Address of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland to the King.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

We, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the church of Scotland, met in our General Assembly, desire to approach the throne, in the present circumstances of national danger, for the purpose of expressing our affectionate and zealous attachment to your Majesty's person and government.

Deeply impressed with a sense of the invaluable blessings which our country has so long enjoyed under the operation of equal laws, and under your Majesty's mild and auspicious reign, we cannot look without much anxiety to the progress of a war, in which the avowed design of our inveterate foe is the subversion of our liberty and independence. And we lament that the conduct of another nation, under the influence of the enemy with whom we chiefly contend, has at length rendered it indispensible for your Majesty to extend still more widely the scene of this arduous contest; yet it is impossible not to perceive, in the present condition of that nation, and of other states that have yielded to the domineering foe, the most decisive evidence that our safety, under God, depends upon a spirit of vigorous and determined resistance, proportioned to whatever shall be the difficulties, and the necessary duration

tion of the war in which we are engaged.

As servants of the God of peace, we rejoiced to hear that a pacific overture had been received by your Majesty.—But while we repose entire confidence in your Majesty's councils, for acceding at any time to such terms of peace as may be consistent with the permanent safety and interests of the British Empire, we cannot forget that these objects are intimately connected with the general security and independence of Europe, and that the maintenance of our national honour is indispensable to our national safety We, therefore, congratulate your Majesty on on the patriotic zeal, so universally manifested by your subjects, as the best pledge of our ultimately rising superior to the power of our enemies. And feeling ourselves, in some measure, responsible for those under our charge, we have much satisfaction in assuring your Majesty of the confirmed loyalty, and ardent patriotism, of the people of Scotland.

We are proud to think that, notwithstanding the extensive preparations that were early made for the invasion of our coasts, the enemy has been hitherto deterred from the attempt, by the well-known state of our national defence, and the unexampled ardour that has been manifested in our country's cause; and, if the perseverance of our countrymen shall be equal to their ardour, we are confident that, under God, we shall a remain free and independent people.

While we look, therefore, to the Great Arbiter of Nations, for his continued protection, we feel that no other worldly object is, in such circumstances, entitled to stand in competition with an unremitted discharge of our duty to our country. We pledge ourselves to our King, in the presence of God, that we shall be unceasing in our endeavours to impress upon the people under our charge an indelible sense of what they owe to our national cause. And we hope, to whatever period the destructive machinations of our enemies may be protracted, it will be found that Britons are not unprepared to defend an inheritance derived from men who thought it worthy to be purchased with their blood, and who have left it to us but in trust for the generations that are yet to come.

That Almighty God may continue to bless the means employed for our national defence;—that he may guide your Majesty's Councils, and may give success to your fleets and armies; that he may soon restore to us the blessings of an honourable and permanent peace; that your Majesty may long reign over a free and loyal people, and that you may, at length, exchange an earthly for a heavenly crown, are the fervent prayers of, may it please your Majesty, your Majesty's most dutiful, most faithful, and most obedient subjects, the Ministers and Elders met in this General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our name, in our presence, and at our appointment, by

GEO. HAMILTON, Moderator.

Edinburgh, May 16th 1805.

Aberdeenshire Canal.

We have now the pleasure to announce the opening of this navigation. On Friday morning, the 7th of June, the Committee of Management assembled at the Bason at Inverury, attended by the Provost, Magistrates, and other inhabitants, who congratulated them on the completion of an undertaking, which must tend so much to the improvement of that part of the country. The company then embarked on board the barge the Countess of Kintore, and proceeded to Kintore, where they were met by the Magistrates and other inhabitants of that burgh.—On their approach towards Aberdeen, they were joined by several thousands of the inhabitants, crowding on the banks and bridges. The voyage, which lasted seven hours and a half, terminated at the bason near the quay without the slightest interruption.—The Canal passes about 19 miles into the interior of the country, rising about 170 feet above the level of the bason, at Aberdeen, by means of 17 locks; is 3½ feet deep, and 20 feet broad at surface water. One barge has already delivered a cargo of coals at Inverury, and another 35 bolls of shell-lime at Kintore.

On Wednesday, May 29. the first stone of the foundation for an Eastern Harbour at Greenock, was laid, when specimens of the coins of the present reign were deposited, along with a plate, on which the following inscription is engraved:—"In the 45th year of our Most Gracious Sovereign George the Third, and under the auspices of Hugh

High Crawford, Esq. Chief Magistrate of Greenock, and John Hamilton, Esq. Junior Magistrate; Robert Bannatyne, Treasurer,—Councillors, Alex. Dunlop, Andrew Thomson, Duncan M'Naught, Thomas Ramsay, Allan Kerr, and John Laird. Pursuant to the sanction of a provident Legislature, this stone was laid on the 29th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1805, and of the æra of Masonry, 5805—John Rennie, engineer; John Aird, superintendant; Andrew Broket, contractor."

The following are the regiments of English militia now on their march for Scotland.

Second W. York, Col. Visc. Downe.
N. Lincoln, . . . — Visc. Milsintown,
Cumberland, . . . — Visc. Lowther,
Westmoreland, . — James Lowther,
East Suffolk, . — Visc. Brome.

On the 29th of May, the Magistrates and Council of Edinburgh unanimously agreed to augment the allowance to the Lord Provost from 500l. to 800l. annum.

On Friday, May 31st, the High Constables of Edinburgh entertained the Magistrates and Council at their annual dinner. Upwards of 80 gentlemen sat down to table at Fortune's Tavern. The Lord High Constable the Earl of Errol, and several other Gentlemen of distinction, honoured them with their presence.

His Majesty's birth-day was celebrated at Edinburgh and Leith with every demonstration of ardent and affectionate loyalty. At noon a royal salute from the Castle, was returned by the battery at Leith, and the shipping in the roads. The whole of the regular, militia, and volunteer force in Edinburgh, Leith, and Peershill barracks, paraded in the different streets in the New Town, and proceeded to Leith Walk, where, being drawn up in line, the infantry three deep, the artillery fired a royal salute, and the infantry three vollies by batallions. The firing was followed by three huzzas, after which, the troops were marched to their respective parades, and dismissed. The volunteers mustered very strong; the day was fine, and the spectacle was pleasing and interesting.

In the evening an entertainment was given by the Magistrates in the Parliament House, which was, as usual, tastefully decorated with shrubs and flowers for the occasion.—The Commander in Chief, with the Staff, and a number of distinguished characters, were present. The health of the day, and many appropriate toasts, were drunk, under repeated vollies of musketry.

Lord Moira, when his health was given, addressed the meeting in a short speech, congratulating them on the spirit and unanimity which pervaded the country; so much so indeed, that the threatened invasion of the enemy, so far from being dreaded, was rather to be wished for; for there could not be a doubt that the result would be glorious for Scotland. He concluded with giving the following toast: "May that man never enjoy the land of cakes, who is not willing to shed his blood in defence of it." The Duke of Buccleugh and Lord Justice Clerk, when their healths were given, also addressed the meeting.

On Friday evening, June 14. the Countess of Loudon and Moira gave a grand Fete at Duddingston House, to above three hundred of the nobility and gentry in and about the city—Among whom were the Duke of Buccleuch, Earl of Errol, Earl of Dalhousie, Earl of Roden, Lord Elcho, Count Piper, Sir John Stuart, Sir William Forbes, Sir Alex. Purves, Sir James Hall: Countess of Errol, Countess Dowager of Dalhousie, Lady Charlotte Campbell, Lady Elizabeth Rawdon, Lady Helen Hall, Lady Stuart, Lady Fettes: Admiral Vashon, and a great number of the Naval and Military Gentlemen, most of the Judges, &c. The Saloon was elegantly fitted up with festoons of flowers, and embellished with an emblematical Naval Pillar, on which were the names of *Howe*, *Duncan*, *St Vincent*, and *Nelson*. The dancing commenced at 10 o'clock, and was continued with great spirit till near two in the morning, when the company sat down to a most elegant supper, in four different rooms, were they were served with a profusion of the best wines, and a most superb desert. After supper the dancing recommenced with redoubled vigour, and was continued till an hour after sun-rising.

In consequence of the new Police Bill for the city of Edinburgh, (the operations under which commenced on the 15th of May,) the city guard, (a corps which has subsisted since the year

year 1696,) was that day disbanded; and two serjeants, two corporals, two drummers, and 30 privates, were selected to form the new city guard. Mr James Burnet, the oldest captain, is appointed their commander.

Among the premiums given by the Society of Arts, at their annual meeting on Tuesday the 28th May, were the silver medal to the Earl of Breadalbane, who has lately improved a large track of land in Scotland, unfit for the plough, by plantations of larch and Scotch firs, which are now in a flourishing state; and a silver medal to Mr John Austin, of Glasgow, for his various useful improvements in manufacturing machinery.

On Thursday the 23d May the Gentlemen attending the Geographical and Astronomical classes of *Mr Denholm*'s academy, Glasgow, presented him, after a very polite address, (delivered by Mr Whytlaw, student of Divinity, one of their number,) with an elegant silver box, with the following inscription: Upon one side,

Olim Meminisse Juvabit.

And on the other,

"Glasgow, May, 1805.—The Gentlemen who attended Mr J. Denholm's Geographical class for last season, present him this Box, as a testimony of the high sense they entertain of the ability and attention which he has uniformly shewn to promote their information."

Wednesday, June 5. David Scott and Hugh Adamson were executed at Glasgow, in front of the jail, for forgery. They were both young men, and behaved in a becoming manner.

DEATHS.

At St Helena, Capt. Wemyss Orrock, of the Lord Nelson, and Capt. Andrew Hannay, of the Marquis of Ely Indiamen.

At the Prince of Wales's island, Lieut. Sir John Gordon, Bart. of the Bengal engineers, son of the late Sir William Gordon of Norwich, Bart.

At Belnarry, in Bengal, Capt. John Falconar, fort adjutant of that place.

At Montpelier, aged 69, Baron Hompech, formerly Grand Master of the order of Malta.

March 26. In Germany, the Right Rev. Father Gabriel Gruber, General of the Society of Jesuits. He was born at Vienna, and entered that Society at an early age. He distinguished himself by his abilities in the sciences and liberal arts. He practised and taught successfully, rhetoric, history, mathematics, hydraulics, chemistry, architecture, and medicine.

May 9. At Weimar, M. Schiller, the celebrated German dramatic poet.

11. At Shapinshea, in Orkney, aged 58, the Rev. Dr George Barry, minister of that parish, and author of a civil and natural history of the 67 islands of Orkney, lately published.

20. At Dublin, aged 89, the Countess Dowager of Massareene.

21. At Edinburgh, aged 84, Mr Wm. Jackson, formerly, and for 26 years, Secretary to the General Post Office, Edinburgh. He was clerk to Lord Milton in the year 1745.

21. At ——, Mrs Katherine Robertson, spouse of John Knox of Brownfield, Esq.

22. At Edinburgh, after a short illness, Dr Donald Smith, late surgeon to the Breadalbane fencibles. In him the country has lost a scholar and antiquary, whose extent of knowledge, acuteness, and industry, have seldom been equalled. In Celtic literature he perhaps exceeded all his contemporaries. He possessed many virtues and excellent qualities, accompanied with the most simple and unassuming manners.

—. At Sunderland, the celebrated Dr Paley, Arch-deacon of Carlisle, Sub-Dean of Lincoln, and Rector of Bishop-wearmouth, author of several works on religious and moral subjects, well known in the literary world, and of universally acknowledged merit.

—. At London, Mr Foote, an eminent banker. He went down the River in a pleasure boat with a party of friends. While the boat was sailing off Gravesend, it was upset. All the persons on board were saved except Mr Foote, who was unfortunately drowned.

24. At London, aged 55, Sir David Carnegie of Southesk, Bart. M. P. for Forfarshire, and Deputy Governor of the British Linen Company; much and justly regreted, as an amiable and accomplished gentleman, and an elegant classical scholar. He has left a family of ten daughters, and two sons.

25. At Rothbury, Miss Rebecca Strong,

Strong, daughter of Mr Robert Strong, merchant, Leith.

25. At Musselburgh, Michael Falcon, Esq. Lieut. and paymaster of the Renfrewshire militia.

—. At Ayr, Mr John Boswell, writer, and one of the collectors of the taxes for that county.

—. At Peebles, Mrs Christian Wightman, relict of John Wightman of Mauldslie Esq.

27. At Musselburgh, Mrs Anne Stephen, relict of Mr John Lamb, merchant, Fisherrow.

28. At Ardrossan manse, Mrs Helen Hart, spouse of the Rev. John Duncan, minister of that parish.

—. At Craigbarnet house, John Stirling of Craigbarnet, Esq.

29. At Edinburgh, Miss Margaret Mackenzie, daughter of the late Kenneth Mackenzie of Dolphington, Esq.

30. At London, aged 76, Sir William Pulteney, Bart. Member of Parliament for Shrewsbury. He had been in a dangerous state for several days, and underwent a surgical operation, which ended in a mortification, and occasioned his death. As a public man, no Commoner understood the constitution of his country better, or more uniformly supported it by his conduct. He possessed a sound understanding, and his opinion was always received in the House with respectful attention. His language was plain and unadorned, but he always expressed himself with clearness and precision. He had a seat in seven successive Parliaments. Sir William (when Mr Johnstone) entered a Member of the Faculty of Advocates in 1751, and practised at the Bar. He was chosen one of the assessors for the city of Edinburgh, but afterwards went to England, where he married Miss Pulteney, niece of the late Earl of Bath, by whom he acquired an immense fortune, and changed his name from Johnstone to Pulteney.—The bulk of his fortune devolves to Sir James Murray Pulteney, who married his only daughter Laura, the present Countess of Bath; but the title of Baronet, and estate of Westerhall, descends to Captain John Lowther Johnstone, son of the late Commodore Johnstone. A few years ago he married a second wife, the widow of Andrew Stewart of Torrance, Esq. and daughter of Sir William Stirling of Ardoch, by whom he had no issue. In 1791, he founded the professorship of Agriculture in the University of Edinburgh. His speculations in American land were on a large scale, having purchased an immense track in the Genessee country, for which he paid 120,000l. and part of which he has resold in parcels to great advantage.

June 1. At Lauriston place, Mrs Margaret Baillie, relict of Captain David Melville.

—. At Priestlands, near Dumfries, Hugh Corrie of Culloch, Esq. writer to the signet, and senior director of the British Linen Company.

2. At Huntly, Mr William Allan, merchant.

—. At London, suddenly, of an apoplexy, John Puget, Esq. an eminent banker in London, and one of the directors of the Bank of England.

3. At Edinburgh, Miss Ann C. Ferrier, second daughter of the late Walter Ferrier of Somerford, Esq.

4. At ——, Mrs Margaret Murdoch, relict of Geo. Yuil, of Darleith, Esq.

5. At Edinburgh, Lady Ann Duff, sister of the Earl of Fife.

5. At London, suddenly, of a dead palsy, Mr Walter Blackadder, printer.

6. At Fetterneir, Miss H. Ann Leslie, second daughter of John Leslie of Balquhain, Esq.

7. At Balledmund, Mrs Fergusson, spouse of Edmund Fergusson of Balledmund, Esq.

8. At Dublin, Dr Arthur Browne, Prime Serjeant of Ireland.

9. At Edinburgh, Cosby Swindell Norvall, Esq. of Boghall.

9. At Edinburgh, aged 64, Mr James Hunter, hardware merchant, who for many years possessed, and was the last tenant of, a shop in the Parliament house, before the enlargement of the Outer House.

10. At London, aged 82, Mark Milbank, Esq. Admiral of the White. He unfortunately fell over the bannisters of his staircase, by which accident he was almost instantly killed.

10. At Edinburgh, Mungo Murray of Lintrose, Esq.

11. At ——, Mr Alexander Balfour, of Meikle Tillery.

11. At Ashford, in Kent, Capt. David Betson, late of the 9th foot, only son of David Betson, Esq. of Meikle Beath.

14. At Caldebank, Henry Moubray, Esq.

14. In

14. In the Fleet prison, London, aged 32, Miss E. Anne Robertson, a lady who some years ago eminently distinguished herself as a swindler, and defrauded several tradesmen to a considerable amount, by pretending acquaintance and relationship to many persons of rank and fortune. She passed herself as heiress to the estate of Faskally, in Perthshire.

17. At London, in childbed, Viscountess Ranelagh. She was delivered of a daughter only two days before, who lived but a few hours. Her Ladyship was daughter of Sir Philip Stephens, Bart. a Lord of the Admiralty.

Civil Appointments.

The Earl of Dartmouth is created a Knight of the Garter, in room of the Marquis of Lansdown, deceased.

Capt. James Lind of the Centurion, and Capt. Joseph Sidney Yorke, have received the honour of Knighthood.

Dr Jonas Barrington is appointed Judge-Advocate General, in room of Sir Charles Morgan, resigned.

James Glasford, Esq. is appointed Sheriff-depute of Dumbartonshire, in room of Sir James Colquhoun, Bart. deceased.

On the 24th of June the Hon. William Maule of Panmure was unanimously elected M. P. for Forfarshire, in room of Sir David Carnegie of Southesk, deceased;——Mr David Scott, younger of Dunninald, having declined standing candidate.

Alex. Maclean of Ardgour, Esq. has received his Majesty's patent under the Great Seal, appointing him Receiver General of Landrents, and Paymaster of the Civil Establishment; also, commissions from the Lords of the Treasury, appointing him Receiver General of the land tax, and assessed taxes in Scotland. On the 19th June he presented his letters to the Court of Exchequer, and took the usual oaths.

John Gordon Esq. W. S. is re-appointed Deputy Receiver General.

Robert Hepburn of Clerkington Esq. is appointed Collector of Stamp duties, in Scotland, in room of Alex. Maclean Esq.

John Tait, Esq. W. S. is appointed Superintendant of Police for the city of Edinburgh, with a salary of 500l. per annum.

The Town Council of Edinburgh have presented the Rev. John Campbell, minister of Kippen, to the collegiate charge of the tolbooth church there, vacant by the death of the Rev. Dr John Kemp.

Price of Stocks.

1805.	Bank Stock.	Omnium.	3 per cent Consols.
June 3	——	3 pr.	——
10.	175 6	3 1/4	——
17.	179	3 1/4 1/2	——
24.	178 1/2	4 1/4	——

Prices of Grain per quarter, Corn Exchange, London.

1805.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.
	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
June 3.	70 96	33 38	25 31	42 48
10.	70 94	32 37	25 31	44 50
17.	60 90	31 36	25 32	43 48
24.	60 90	30 36	24 31	43 47

Prices of Grain at Haddington.

1805.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Peale.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
May 31.	46 0	29 0	20 0	15 6
June 7.	45 0	30 6	21 0	18 0
14.	44 0	30 0	24 0	17 0
21.	43 0	30 0	20 0	19 0

Prices of Oat, Pease, and Barley Meal, in Edinburgh Market per Peck.

1805.	Oatmeal. Bolls.	Oatmeal. Price.		Pease & Barley Meal. Bolls.	Pease & Barley Meal. Price.	
		d.	d.		d.	s.
June 4.	250	16	15 1/2	50	15	1
11.	280	16	15 1/2	56	15	1
18.	240	16	15 1/2	50	15	1
25.	340	17	16 1/2	60	15	1

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Floridus, and "Lines on *Hayley*'s life of *Cooper*," will appear in our next.

Errata.—In our last notices to correspondents, for *J. F.* read *R. B.*

For the Scots Mag and Edin Literary Miscellany.

R. Scott Sculp.

GILLESPIES HOSPITAL from the EAST.

Published by A. Constable & Co. Edin. 1 Aug. 1814.